THE NATIONAL ERA.

G. BAILEY, JUN., EDITOR; GAMALIEL BAILEY, JR., GAMALIEL BAILEY 3d, G. WHITTIER, CORRESPONDING EDITORS. BUELL & BLANCHARD, PRINTERS.

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TERMS.

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PUBLISHER'S NOTICES.

☞ All communications relating to the *business matters* of the paper, &c., and particularly the names of subscribers, remittances, &c., should be addressed to L. P. Noble, Publisher.

☞ Orders are coming in daily for papers without a name. No paper will be sent except it be paid for or accompany the order. *Remit sums by be seat at our risk, by mail, taking care to have the letter put in an envelope, and well sealed,* directed, post paid, to the Publisher.

☞ Mr. V. B. Palmer, at his newspaper agency, New York, Philadelphia, Boston, and Baltimore, is duly authorized to procure advertisements for this paper.

☞ Within the last week we have received two or three requests to have the direction of papers changed, and in consequence of the want of post office, county, or State, the papers have heretofore been sent. Without these, we cannot change the direction.

☞ We desire to call attention to the notice which asks correspondents, in all cases, when names are sent, to give the county as well as post office and State. One correspondent writes, "It is of no consequence to give the name of the county." It *is* of consequence to us, as we cannot enter the names of subscribers in full without knowing the county. Let every name be distinctly written.

☞ Agents and others, in sending names, are requested to be very particular, and have each letter so distinct, as to the name of the *Post Office,* the *County,* and the *State.*

☞ Agents or others having funds to forward are desired, if the amount to be remitted is to purchase of some bank a draft on New York, Philadelphia, or Baltimore. Smaller amounts may be transmitted by mail, observing, when convenient, to send large bills on the New England, New York, Philadelphia, or Baltimore banks. Do not send certificates of deposite.

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WASHINGTON, JUNE 14, 1847.

NEW YORK LETTER.

NEW YORK, *June* 1847.

NEWSPAPERS AND NEWSPAPER MEN OF NEW YORK.

In my last letter, I endeavored to give expression to some of the opinions and views which are entertained by thoughtful men, of independent minds, who wish well to their race, with regard to the religious newspaper press of this city, and the "New York Observer," the organ of one great division of the church, in particular. I now propose, my dear friend, to scribble a few paragraphs about the daily papers, and their editors, which may not be altogether uninteresting to such of your readers as take an interest in these matters.

Observing no particular order in this rambling survey, I will begin with the "New York Herald." The editor and proprietor of this paper is Mr. James G. Bennett. He is a Scotchman, and emigrated to this country from the out-fields of Lanarkshire, a dull-dreary region of country. James was designed by his parents—who were of the humbler class of people—for the service of the Romish church; and, after acquiring the usual quantity of hog-Latin, he was about to be sent to a French Jesuitical seminary, when, for some reason or other, the youth's destination was changed, and the priesthood lost a not very handsome addition to their worthy fraternity. Young Bennett was now employed as a clerk in the banking house of several Scottish "lairds" in the vicinity of his birth-place, where he had the inestimable privilege of supping "keil" in the kitchen, and following in the train of the aristocracy in the agreeable field of employment, the young philosopher, it is supposed, first acquired the savory potted pates of his Superiors which has characterized him through life.

Mr. Bennett landed in this country a tall, rawboned young man, with a small bundle under his arm, and a pair of tartan pantaloons much too short for him. He proceeded to Albany in New York and in some of our inland counties resumed the profession of a teacher of youth. In this useful and honorable avocation he spent several years, until, strengthened by his previous diet and proficiency of the Orange county farmers, by which he had at first been most agreeably surprised, the head of his young Scotch organ society, which it is considered he will cast Guizot entirely into the shade. In his absence, the editorial chair is filled by a Mr. Brownell, a gentleman from Hudson, who is very much afflicted with a redundancy of bile and an obstinate constipation of intellect. He regards slavery as a singularly sacred and heavenly institution, and all the South. These gentlemen each receive twelve dollars a week. There are some half dozen besides who are paid a dollar a day, but easily double that sum by the receipt of gratuities for puffing the theatres, not to speak of free guzzling on board of new steamboats, and frequent "treats" at the grog-shops and cellars.

Such is a brief sketch of the history and *personel* of the "Herald." Certainly, the early education of the editor, and his subsequent career, do not afford a great promise for the high literary qualifications for conducting such a newspaper as a right-thinking man could approve; whilst his assistants are too insignificant to be taken into the calculation at all. You here doubtless have many complaints about its reckless infidelity and blasphemous ribaldry. In my opinion, the charges against it have been greatly exaggerated, or been greatly exaggerated. For years, it has avoided anything like abuse of things sacred. It has for a long time been as free as any other newspaper of the day from open profanity. The gross and glaring fault in the "Herald" consists in its utter want of sound principle and its entire neglect of responsibility as an organ of public opinion. Shrewd and cunning, and that knowledge of the world and human nature which make up the character of what is called a good business man, Mr. Bennett has a large share, and he has not allowed those talents to be wrapped up in a napkin. He has pandered successfully to the prejudices, follies, vices, gentlenesses, and ignorance of mankind. His paper has been a faithful reflex of the least excellent aspect of human society. It is true he has perseveringly assailed the follies and affectations of the self-styled aristocracy of Mammon, and the corruptions and hypocrisies of political parties. But in all this it has been perfectly apparent that the right motives, the right aiming, the right impulses and desires, have been all absent. Mr. Bennett is merely a crafty, worldly man, doing a good newspaper business. He wants the true heart, the sound head, the earnest nature, the loving soul, the cultivated intellect, the large and comprehensive mind, which belong to the philanthropist and reformer and honest lawgiver, which might have been a most powerful instrumentality in the cause of truth, liberty, and mankind, has been a mere chronicle of news, mixed up with the idle gossip of the hour, not even seasoned with the wit or humor which sometimes gives it a pleasant flavor and prolongs its ephemeral existence!

It is a gross mistake, into which not a few have fallen, to suppose that the success of the "Herald" has been owing to the lenity with which it has treated religion, and the common-place subjects connected with man's immediate destiny, and his happiness and welfare here. As I have shown, the industry and general ability with which the "news" department has been managed, has been the great secret of this success. And the lesson which I desire to inculcate is, that the friends of truth and liberty should make the most faithful and strenuous exertions to secure the efficient aid of that great engine of mind and opinion—the newspaper press—by rendering to papers of the right stamp a generous support, and impelling the conductors of these papers in the proper course.

A newspaper, to be of service to any cause, must be a newspaper in the full and highest sense of the term. It should not be the mere mouthpiece of a party, or of any particular views. It should be conducted in such a manner as to carry its influence throughout the whole community. It should be made generally interesting.

But, my dear friend, on this head you are master of better information than I am. I am writing every week your appreciation of these views. So I forbear, and, having already nearly filled up my space, I must defer to my next a sketch of the "Tribune," the establishment, as Courier and Enquirer," the "Journal of Commerce," and perhaps some more of the newspapers of this great metropolis.

GENERAL NEWS.

The procession of the Odd Fellows of this city and neighborhood, in honor of the twenty-fourth anniversary of the Grand Lodge of the State and the laying of the corner-stone of a magnificent hall, which the Order intend erecting on a favorable situation in the upper part of the city, took place on Saturday. About six thousand of the brethren took part in it, and, as the day was fine, the whole thing passed off very comfortably. A procession is many times a very fine thing, as a public display of bonhomie, of public benevolence, is a solemn and touching spectacle. It may be weakness if you please, but such a scene always affects me profoundly. But I must confess the display of "regalia," as it is styled, had in my eyes something rather paltry and mean. When we become men, we should put away childish and boyish amusements. I have never had to dread these seasons of prandial enjoyment, for they were always the certain precursors of terrible head-aches and other unpleasantness.

The first thing which brought the "Herald" decidedly into public notice was the publication of its "money articles." It is generally supposed that these were written by Mr. James Aspinwall. This supposition is altogether erroneous. They did not even originate with him. They were suggested to him by Mr. James Andrews, then an extensive dealer in the name of Scottish dry goods; now, I believe, a custom-house officer. He pointed out the importance of giving a daily report of the transactions at the Stock Board, and the purchase of some hank a draft on New York, Philadelphia, or Baltimore. Smaller amounts may be transmitted by mail, observing, when convenient, to send large bills on the New England, New York, Philadelphia, or Baltimore banks. Do not send certificates of deposite.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE TO MY OLD SUBSCRIBERS.

Some time since I informed the subscribers to the Weekly Herald and Philanthropist, that, to prevent them from being suddenly dropped from the subscription list of the *Era*, whose terms require strictly pay in advance, I had assumed the pecuniary responsibility in their case, and would have the paper continued to them for a time long enough for them to bring themselves to the cash system. It must be obvious to them, that there must be a limit to this time, unless they would have me embarrass myself beyond measure. At the expiration, therefore, of the first half volume of the Era, (the 7th of July next,) no paper will be sent to any of the old subscribers of the Weekly Herald and Philanthropist who shall not have paid up to that date. It is desirable that payments be made so as to cover the whole volume, up to next January.

This is an indispensable measure, and, as it will operate upon all equally, no one can object to it.

My old subscribers will permit me to say, that in assuming the responsibility of supplying them with the Era, I have incurred obligations which thus far they have not enabled me to meet. This statement, I am sure, will be enough for every honorable subscriber. G. BAILEY, JUN.

ONLY TWO WEEKS MORE.

Will the old subscribers to the Philanthropist please remember that only two weeks more remain for all who are in arrears, or have not paid in advance, to make payment? This is the 24th number of the *Era*—the 26th will be the last one sent to such as have not paid up to that number.

I shall be deeply sorry to part with any of my old friends, but the measure is indispensable. The Era has been furnished them on my pecuniary responsibility—and this is altogether too heavy to be continued beyond six months. I have gone as far as I dare. They must now see what they can do.

PORTRAITS OF REFORMERS.

If all reformers were philosophers, they would be more forbearing, more charitable, more harmonious, and certainly not less efficient. But, this is not to be expected. In a Democracy, especially, where the appeal for the redress of political or social grievances must be carried to the people, the ranks of reform will embrace minds of the most opposite habitudes and conditions, and there will be continual jarring on some point or other. Persons who become in any way prominent will require all the wisdom of the serpent, all the harmlessness of the dove; nor even then must they expect to escape the misconstruction of their co-workers.

One man is constitutionally hot-blooded and hasty. Your men of tact and prudence and patience he cannot away with. If he do not doubt their honesty, he stigmatizes their want of spirit.

Another, with little of the "milk of human kindness" in his heart, has a keen sense of justice, combined with an irascible temper. He feels more wrath against the wrong-doers, than pity for the wronged. As a matter of justice, he would have these righted; but his great object is to have those punished. Vengeance, in him, puts on the habit of revenge; he has a real appetite for retribution. Were he Thunder-bearer, not a bolt would be kept idle: he would smite his own friend, should he plead for mercy to the condemned. In his judgment, lenity is a crime.

Next comes the man of narrow mind, and honest purpose, who feels, but does not reason. He is famous for hobby-horses. By some means his attention is arrested by a serious evil. It fascinates his mind, and he can think of nothing else. It excites his horror, and he can feel nothing else. It is his one idea, overshadowing all questions that can be raised, controlling all his acts. Its existence is the one great obstacle to human progress; its removal, the sole duty. And there is but one way of doing it—that which his limited wisdom has designated. Exact accordance of opinion on these points he demands as a condition to his fellowship. The little clique that sees eye to eye with him, is the sole hope of humanity, the only salt that is too good for the dunghill. He who would enlarge his view so as to take in the wide field of human woes, assigning to each its proportionate magnitude, striving to unite with his fellow-men in all philanthropic efforts, is set down as lukewarm, latitudinarian, blind, or time-serving.

Another is a constitutional declaimer. Nature made him a dealer in tropes and figures. "Spit fire, spout hail," should be his motto. He lives only in a tempest. How he spurns the logician, the man of reasons, the mere mental clodhopper! Hyperbole is exhausted in describing the evil he wars against. He will not stoop to prove anything he says. It is self-evident, plain as the nose on your face, sir. If you don't see, 'tis because you *won't* see. What you need is, not logic, but the lash. How he thunders and lightens! Yet, the mere declaimer has a multitude of admirers, who expect to see the walls tumbling, as of old, at the blowing of his ram's-horn, sneering meantime at the less ambitious sappers and miners who, by the patient, slow processes of reason, are fatally undermining the strong-holds of Error.

Next, we have the metaphysical reformer. One might suppose he loved a principle, for the sake of an argument. His chief ambition is, not so much to carry it out in a plain, common sense way to the particular evil to be remedied, but to display his skill in exhibiting its numerous phases. He loves to invest subtile abstractions with the solid importance of practical duties. To promote the growth of a cause, already sufficiently unpopular on account of its intrinsic antagonism to a general prejudice, he labors with great ingenuity to demonstrate its identity with divers other matters, odious, if not impracticable. But his *chef d'œuvre* is the demonstration that the nearer a man approaches his favorite set of reformers, in sentiment and action, without being one with them in all points, the greater are his demerits, the more is he to be shunned and denounced. Withal, he is a man of tests, a creed-monger. There is no end to his articles of faith; every new point he arrives at by his iron-linked logic, is fundamental; and you must believe, or be unto him as a heathen man and publican. He may not have published the discovery, but certainly, in his own mind, by an irrefragable process of reasoning, he has long since proved, that Wilberforce was the worst enemy of emancipation, and Clarkson a humbug.

Then, there is the timid reformer, starting at his own shadow, if it chance to look too distinct; excessive in his caution, a mere man of expedients. He loves the truth, but speaks with bated breath, lest he should offend. He shrinks from bold and open attacks, and glides towards his object in by-ways, by indirect methods. Overawed by the magnitude of an evil, and yet driven on by his conscience to do something, he tries to satisfy its demands, by lopping off some here, and trimming a little there, frightened at the bare idea of going to the root of the matter. The man of decision and boldness is shunned, as, to say the least, a very unsafe associate.

Who has not seen the self-sufficient, ambitious reformer? He began the moral warfare under the conjoint pressure of conscience, a restless activity, an indisposition to be unknown. Besides, it was necessary to make a living. He has gained a position, and continues battling, from habit, an appetite for excitement, and the love of leadership, his conscience having exhausted nearly all its energy in the effort to impel him at first in the right course. He has now a horror of obscurity. To be talked about, no matter in what way, is his great delight. He courts persecution, for this will increase his consequence, and make his name an abiding presence in the minds of his followers. To be the most abused man in the country, is an object he would almost die for. Every philippic against him he is sure to herald; and people give him credit for magnanimity, while he inwardly congratulates himself upon the folly of his enemies, in thus enabling him to glorify himself. Often does he magnify the sacrifices and sufferings which his conspicuous position entails upon him, as if poor human nature had not inherited a portion of that spirit which would rather

"reign in hell
Than serve in Heaven."

Warring against the wrongs of others, he has neglected his own heart, till he knows not what manner of spirit he is of. His stern opposition to social wrong, he regards as clear proof of personal righteousness. Ever ready to question the honesty of others, he will not admit that his own needs watching. The particular reform to which he is devoted, he identifies with himself, stickles for the slightest point he has suggested, and, at the hazard of breaking up his party, would defeat a measure, however unessential, which he has opposed. Whatever his real views, knowing that conservatism in any reform movement is dangerous to popularity, while an appearance of ultraism, without much decisive action, will secure a standing with the multitude, and not seriously impair his position with the reflecting, he always inclines to ultra measures, without positively advocating them.

The true reformer knows that a bitter fountain cannot send forth sweet waters, and therefore would purify himself ere he enters upon the work of cleansing the world. While reproving wrong in his neighbor, he makes the same allowance for the perverting influences of human conditions and circumstances, which he hopes will be recognised in his own case by the Judge of all the earth. He recollects that the Great Reformer, who was without spot or blemish, was yet touched with the feeling of human infirmities; and he does not aspire to be more severely just than his Master.

More anxious to be right and useful, than conspicuous and in authority, he fights with equal zeal, whether in the ranks or in command. Remembering that Truth is invincible, that its interests are in the keeping of the Almighty, he never deludes himself with the notion that *he* is necessary to its success, or dares introduce his personal grievances upon the great field of its controversies.

He is practical as well as speculative, devoted to principle, but not given to vain disputings; never wasting his energies in efforts which refine reform into an impracticability. He does not refuse the right hand of fellowship to a co-worker, because unable to recognise his demonstration of a new application of the great principle contended for in common: shoulder to shoulder he presses forward with his brethren, so far as they will go, and then he will follow out his own convictions of what is right, without denouncing theirs.

He eschews mere expedients. Neither timid nor rash, he cannot be deterred from duty by threats of personal violence, or driven to excess for the sake of escaping the charge of cowardice.

Indirectness of method has no charms for him; covert dealing he shuns; what he whispers in the ear he is willing should be proclaimed upon the house-top. He seeks always to walk in the light; and, though careful not needlessly to offend, nay, assiduous in his efforts to allay prejudice, yet will he speak the truth in its fulness, calmly, and without fear.

Extravagance of speech is in accordance with neither his taste nor principles. He would not even caricature the devil. But one legitimate door he recognises, to the heart—the *understanding*—and he seeks entrance in no other way. First, he would convince, then, warm; kindling the imagination only to throw light upon his argument, and breathe life into his appeal. He asserts nothing which he thinks he cannot prove; and deems rhetoric a mere cheat, when not a ministering angel to thought. His views are always broad, calm, clear, and liberal. No one idea is suffered to chain his mind or control his feelings. Great as may be the evil which he would remove, he is aware that it is one of many, and that the remedy for it should be such as not to aggravate the intensity of the rest. In judging of men, he never leaves out of the account the influences under which their views and habits have been formed; and in laboring to remove a wrong, he carefully searches out all the roots by which it has imbedded itself in society, so that his blows may not be given, hit or miss.

Nor does he imagine that all knowledge dwells with him and his co-laborers. There may be a wisdom he has not reached, an evil his eyes are still unopened to. Believing himself to be right, and feeling bound to act in obedience to his own views of duty, he knows that there is but One who can always judge righteous judgment, and that, by His fiat, the man whom he thinks wrong may be pronounced right at the last day. He remembers the beautiful saying of Holy Writ—"Mercy and Truth have met together, Righteousness and Peace have kissed each other"—and soft-eyed Pity ever mitigates the severity of his judgment. Sternly does he denounce wrong, and he flies to the rescue of the victim of injustice, but leaves judgment to Him who has said, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay." With a heart quick to sympathize with suffering, a conscience keen to detect the right, prompt to condemn the wrong, he forgets not that, "Better is he that ruleth his spirit, than he that taketh a city." Let his emotions be what they may, calm Reason, like a rock amid the surges, maintains unmoved its seat. Not even the deepest indignation against a tyrant, the most glowing sympathy for his victim, can drive him to imprudence, or prevent him from pursuing with steady nerve and immovable patience the best means for saving the one, and destroying the power of the other. His own friends may misunderstand him, and many may denounce him as fearful or faithless, but, strong in his integrity, he knows how to endure as well as to act.

THE REASON.

Not unfrequently Northerners, who, at home, have been zealous in their denunciations of slavery, more from feeling than principle, change their views on visiting the South. Their sympathies have been over-excited by pictures of cruelty and privation among the slaves, and when, by personal observation, they find that the reality does not answer to the description, there is a sudden revulsion of sentiment, and they become the apologists of slavery. An adventurer from Maine, visiting a neighborhood in Virginia, in which we lately passed a few days, made it his first business to inquire of an innkeeper where the places were in which slave-breeding for the market was carried on. He supposed it was the principal business of the community! Another, from Ohio, turned a complete somerset. After having made his observation of the manner in which the slaves lived, he remarked, that slavery was "a mighty bad thing in theory, but quite comfortable in practice."

We said to the gentleman who told us this, that he might take it for granted that all such persons never looked beyond the surface of things. They might be furious at home, but their zeal was the effect of mere sympathy or a distempered fancy. They never went beyond the *externals* of slavery; its real evil they did not understand.

Certainly, so far as merely outward circumstances are concerned, the slaves, where they came under our observation, were comfortably situated, and, if they possessed no other than an animal nature, they would have small cause of complaint. Their little houses are better than many a log-cabin we have seen in the West. They have plenty of bacon and corn meal, and, in many cases, their own truck patches. Nor do they work harder or longer than the laborers of the free States. Cruel punishments are rare, and the lash is not in frequent use. In a word, so far as their animal nature is concerned, they are generally treated with humanity. We speak only of what we have seen in Virginia. It is this fact that deceives those Northerners who have been trained to abhor slavery merely on account of its physical cruelties. Travelling in such a State as Virginia, and not seeing these, forthwith you have letters from them in the newspapers, the burden of which is, how well off the negroes are! Did they ever read the fable of the fat dog and lean one? The sleek hide and plump form were very inviting till the mark of the collar was seen on the neck! If man were created to live by bread alone, then were the slaves of Virginia well off. But, is there a *free* man, however poor and wretched, that would sell his *liberty* for a mess of pottage? The consciousness in a man that he is his own master; that he may go and come when he pleases; judge, speak, act for himself; that he depends upon his own right arm; may be the architect of his own fortunes; that he owes implicit obedience to but One—the Supreme Ruler—ennobles him, develops his energies, makes his manhood a blessing and an honor, is an essential condition to progress. The consciousness in a man that he is a slave, no matter how fat, and sleek, and well provided for, degrades, debases, curses him.

The free laborer may rise to the most honorable station. Progress is the law of Freedom. The slaves, as a class, are perpetually stagnant. They wear from one generation to another the same terrible brand—*goods and chattels*—and society regards them, not as responsible, intelligent, members of its organization, but as a part of its wealth.

"Mighty bad in theory, but comfortable enough in practice!" A part of the theory of slavery is, that ignorance is the best state of its subjects; and the laws secure this state, by prohibiting, under severe penalties, the teaching of slaves to read and write. These laws are enforced to this extent: no schools are allowed among slaves, no system of education is tolerated, and if, here and there, the children of a family teach the house slaves to read, the laws wink, because the *evil* is so limited. The practice here, then, conforms to the theory. The ignorance of the slave is the interest of the State. And yet, because well fed and sheltered, he is well off! The slaveholder himself cannot but despise the shallow Northerner guilty of such twattle.

Finally, the poor bondman knows not how long he may enjoy his comfortable fare. The wasting system under which he labors may exhaust the means of his master, and he and his family may find themselves under the hammer of the auctioneer. What will his neat hut, and well-cultivated garden-patch, and abundant fare, then avail him? The father and mother see each other and their children for the last time, and the rest of their lonely existence they drag out upon a sugar or rice plantation.

Let it not be said these are the mere incidents of the system. Physical cruelty and privation are the *incidents*. The law does not authorize either; in many cases, it aims to provide against both, although, after all, its safeguards are nothing, where the master is wanting in humanity. But the moral evils we have just noticed are *essentials*, not incidents. The law authorizes the master to sell his slaves as he pleases, and, in many cases, compels their sale, without the slightest regard to family ties. The law, by securing to the master all the nett earnings of the slaves, necessarily keeps them down forever on the dead level of abject poverty. And the law, not leaving it optional with the master to teach his slaves or not, sternly forbids them to be taught.

Now, these are essential and perpetual parts of the slave system. There is, there can be, no slaveholding without them. But, all this the superficial Northerner passes over; and because, where he has travelled, the slaves have good huts to live in, and plenty to eat, and are neither worked hard nor often punished, he begins to think slavery comfortable enough in practice!

THE FUTURE—THE BOSTON WHIG.

The *Boston Whig* republishes the main portion of our article entitled "*The Future,*" which appeared two or three weeks since, and follows it with the following comments:

"If the *National Era* has done us the favor to pay the smallest attention to our preceding course, it will understand that we make no points merely upon men, without first understanding the principles they represent. We know nothing of General Taylor, further than that he is a large slaveholder, that he has fought and won three sharp battles in an unjust war, and that he writes very creditable despatches. This is no ground for us to take either side in a premature agitation of the question, whether he shall be the Whig candidate for the Presidency.

We will now tell the Era what we do stand upon. The Whigs of Massachusetts, by very large majorities, voted, in the Legislature of the Commonwealth, the following resolutions:

"'*Resolves concerning the Mexican War and the Institution of Slavery.*

"'*Resolved*, That the present war with Mexico has its primary origin in the unconstitutional annexation to the United States of the foreign State of Texas; that it was unconstitutionally commenced by the order of the President, to General Taylor, to take military possession of territory in dispute between the United States and Mexico, *and in the occupation of Mexico;* and that it is now waged by a powerful nation against a weak neighbor, unnecessarily and without just cause, at immense cost of treasure and life, for the dismemberment of Mexico, and for the conquest of a portion of her territory, from which slavery has already been excluded, with the triple object of extending slavery, of strengthening the 'Slave Power,' and of obtaining the control of the free States, under the Constitution of the United States.

"'*Resolved*, That such a war of conquest, so hateful in its objects, so wanton, unjust, and unconstitutional, in its origin and character, must be regarded as a war against freedom, against humanity, against justice, against the Union, against the Constitution, and *against the free States;* and that a regard for the true interests and the highest honor of the country, not less than the impulses of Christian duty, should arouse all good citizens to join in efforts to arrest this war, and in every just way aiding the country to retire from the position of aggression which it now occupies towards a weak, distracted neighbor, and sister Republic.

"'*Resolved*, That our attention is directed anew to the wrong and 'enormity' of slavery, and to the tyranny and usurpation of the 'Slave Power,' as displayed in the history of our country, particularly in the annexation of Texas and the present war with Mexico; and that we are impressed with the unalterable conviction, that a regard for the fair fame of our country, for the principles of morals, and for that righteousness which exalteth a nation, sanctions and requires all constitutional efforts for the destruction of the unjust influence of the Slave Power, and for the abolition of slavery within the limits of the United States.'

"Now, we will sustain no man or set of men, who, whilst they profess to disapprove the war, vote to carry it on. We will sanction no equivocal language like this, which we find in the Philadelphia North American:

"'The Whigs will have a majority in the popular branch of the next Congress. From the best information within our reach, we are of opinion that their course will confirm that of the Whigs during the last session. They will sustain, by a vote of all supplies needed, the war, while it is the country's.'

"We demand it of the Whigs, if they have a majority, to use it *forthwith* to stop the war, because it is a war upon the free States, and not the country's war. We are tired of compromises which compromise principle. The resolution on this subject, passed in Ohio, at the Green county meeting, meets our views entirely, and covers the ground assumed in this district in opposition to Mr. Winthrop's election:

"'*Resolved*, That a course pursued by a portion of the Whig members of Congress and Whig editors of the country, in denouncing the war, as having been unconstitutionally and unnecessarily commenced by the President, and as being waged for wicked and unholy purposes—ends destructive to the best interests of the country—and at the same time sustaining and urging the voting of men and money to the President, for the purpose of enabling him to continue the war for such objects, and defending the policy of so doing on the miserable and contemptible plea of holding the President responsible, was an abandonment, on their part, not only of the surest and best guaranty of civil liberty, but of duty, and meets with our most unqualified disapprobation.'

"Does the Era recollect that this is the only Whig district in the United States in which there was an effort on the part of some of the Whigs to signify their disapprobation at the polls? Did this look like the course which it imputes to us now?

"Neither will we sustain any man or set of men, who are not clearly, distinctly, unequivocally pledged to carry out the principle of the Wilmot proviso in all cases of territory acquired by the United States. We take on this subject the position assumed by Mr. Rathbun, of New York, as a Democrat. We believe it to be the position of four-fifths of the Whigs of Massachusetts out of the city of Boston.

"If General Taylor be nominated the candidate of the Whig party, at a convention pledged to sustain the system here pointed out, we shall be contented to give him what support we can. If not, Massachusetts Whigs, after passing the resolutions of last session, cannot consistently do so.

"Is the Era answered?"

We rejoice to find that in attributing to the Boston Whig the reasoning of certain compromise Whig papers, we were mistaken. The editor of that paper, in our estimation, is an honest Anti-Slavery man, aiming to do all that he believes he can rightfully do against slavery. We do not wish to embarrass him, or place him in a false position. The closing paragraph, however, of his statement, leaves us in some uncertainty. He he will support General Taylor, he says, if nominated as the candidate of the Whig party, by a convention (national, of course) "pledged to sustain the system here pointed out." Suppose the General should not indicate plainly and unequivocally *his* assent to this system, would the *Whig* support him? There is nothing certainly in this paragraph on which to ground an inference that it would not. But, from the general tenor of the statement, we infer, of course, that it would also demand a pledge from General Taylor, as well as from the convention, "to the system here pointed out." Indeed, in the paragraph immediately preceding, it declares, "neither will we sustain any man or set of men, who are not clearly, distinctly, unequivocally pledged to carry out the principle of the Wilmot proviso in all cases of territory acquired by the United States."

Is our inference correct? We understand the *Whig* to declare it will not support General Taylor, or any other candidate, unless he be "pledged to sustain the system here pointed out." We do not wish to catechise our respected cotemporary; but, as we are anxious to obtain a clear view of his position, he will please correct us, if we have *mis*understood him.

The next point of inquiry is, the "*the nature of the system here pointed out.*" What is it? First, the affirmation of duties contained in the Massachusetts resolutions. These are two:

1st. All good citizens are bound "to join in efforts to arrest this war, and, in every just way, aid the country to retire from the position of aggression which it now occupies towards a weak, distracted neighbor and sister Republic."

2d. "A regard for the fair fame of our country, for the principles of morals, and for that righteousness which exalteth a nation, sanctions and requires all constitutional efforts for the destruction of the unjust influence of the Slave Power, and for the abolition of slavery within the limits of the United States."

Another part of the "system pointed out" is indicated in the following paragraph from the statement of the *Whig:*

"Now, we will sustain no man or set of men, who, whilst they profess to disapprove the war, vote to carry it on."

The remaining part of the system is a *clear, distinct*, unequivocal pledge "to carry out the principle of the Wilmot proviso in all cases of territory acquired by the United States."

If our construction be correct, then the Boston Whig will not support General Taylor, unless nominated as the candidate of the Whig party, by a convention pledged to sustain this system, and unless he will pledge himself also to sustain it.

There is, therefore, no difference between the *Boston Whig* and the Whigs and Democrats who think with it, on the one hand, and the Liberty party, on the other, except in a *single point:* the great majority of the Liberty men would not vote for a slaveholder under any circumstances. The *Boston Whig* and its associates will not refuse their support to a slaveholder, *if pledged to sustain the principles* which the Liberty party contends for!

Now, we think the *Whig* will agree with us, that this difference, under the circumstances, is, and will continue to be, merely a speculative one. It is not within the bounds of probability that any slaveholder can be found who will pledge himself to "sustain the system" just defined. Does the *Whig* entertain the faintest hope that a National Whig Convention, in which the moneyed interest of the North and the slaveholders of the South would be powerfully represented, would affirm it to be the duty of the Government to withdraw the American armies from Mexico, and the duty of Congress to withhold all supplies for the further prosecution of the war? Or that it would affirm the duty of using all constitutional efforts for the destruction of the unjust influence of the Slave Power, and for the abolition of slavery within the limits of the United States? Or that it would pledge itself to the principle of the Wilmot proviso? Has the *Whig* the remotest expectation that General Taylor will give this pledge, and that he will use "all his constitutional efforts for the destruction of the unjust influence of the Slave Power, and for the abolition of slavery within the limits of the United States?" Or that he will give any countenance to such a doctrine?

We are sure the *Whig* will will not dissent from the assertion that such expectations can be entertained by nobody.

The course of events in the Future seems to us plain; but, after all, we may prove a very shallow seer. *If* a Whig Nominating Convention be held at all, there is only one ground on which it can harmonize; and that is, *the non-acquisition of any territory at all, or the total exclusion of the slavery question.* Their resolutions, in addition to the ordinary creed of the party, expressed in very general terms, would embody this principle, and nothing more. A bare expression of opinion against slavery, to say nothing of a pledge to the system pointed out by the *Whig*, would annihilate the convention, and split the Party. Who doubts it? And General Taylor would take the same ground, and no other. As to the war, no such convention, if called, will dare affirm the duty of withdrawing the troops or withholding supplies. It will denounce the war, deprecate its continuance, breathe the most ardent love for peace, but it will give an equivocal, if not distinct expression of opinion in favor of maintaining the honor of the American arms. It is not because inclined to think evil, that we predict these things; but will not the observation of every man who reads the newspapers, and is familiar with politics, justify the prediction?

And how will it stand with the Democratic party? The spirit of compromise, as it is called, which is in truth the spirit of sacrifice for the sake of the party, will fall upon it. They, too, will have their National Convention. General Cass will leave it to be inferred by his Northern supporters that he favors the principle of the Wilmot proviso, but he will render himself acceptable to the South by opposing the agitation of it, on precisely the same grounds on which he rested his opposition last winter, and also by a distinct recognition of the right of the States to manage their own concerns; and so he will be the compromise candidate, on whom all sections of the Democracy may rally.

But our Anti-Slavery friends in both these parties will not believe, till the thing be done. What then will they do? Can Mr. Rathbun, after having pledged himself publicly to support no man who will not sustain the Wilmot proviso, vote for General Cass? Will the *Boston Whig*, after its distinct declarations, support a candidate without the requisites it demands? They cannot, they will not; and many others will be placed in the same predicament.

It is in view of these probabilities, that we are anxious to defer a Liberty nomination. By next spring these gentlemen will, we doubt not, be convinced; and, for one, we can see no reason why they might not then go into a convention with Liberty men, and unite upon some good and true man. The result of such a movement, if properly conducted, and vigorously sustained, might be to throw the election into the House of Representatives. Such an event, directly dependent upon the Slavery question as it would be, would be pregnant with the most momentous consequences.

We throw out these suggestions, expecting, of course, to be again assailed, in certain quarters, with all sorts of idle and ungenerous charges. But our great desire is to see a general union of the Anti-Slavery men of all parties, and all sections of the country, on some common basis of effective action. For ourselves, we confess that, while we give much prominence to the political movements in relation to slavery, we do it rather because they seem to open just now the best channel for reaching by argument the public mind, and not because we attach so much importance to them as some do. In our opinion, it is far more important to arouse and convince the people of the slave States, for, as final action upon the subject rests with them, unless their minds can be reached, no great good can be effected, except indeed the doctrine of the Disunion Party be adopted, and dissolution be sought as a blessing.

JAMES G. BIRNEY.

"The Lowell Courier says James G. Birney has left the Liberty party, and goes for establishing a new party, on the basis proposed by William Goodell and others, viz: free trade, opposition to secret societies, &c. The National Era says, that 'Mr. Birney, we presume, will be the Presidential candidate of the new party.' What will the Emancipator say?"—*Salem Register.*

What do we say, neighbor? Why, first, we say that we fear the Lowell Courier has said a great many things about James G. Birney, for which it must give account, when the things spoken that "are not" are called for. Secondly, we say that there is no evidence to our minds that Mr. Birney goes for a new party; and, if he does, we are certain we do not go with him.

Emancipator.

The Emancipator may find the "evidence" in the Albany Patriot, which, a few weeks since, published Mr. Birney's adhesion to the new movement; and of this movement the Emancipator speaks as follows:

"The call, however, is for a *new* party, not with *one* sure corner-stone, but with such a number of rolling stones that no one party can stand upon them."

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLIES.

The *General Assembly of the (N. S.) Presbyterian Church* convened this year in Cincinnati. Our absence has prevented an earlier notice of its proceedings in relation to slavery. It will be recollected that the Rev. Mr. Graham, of the Cincinnati Synod, was suspended by that body for publishing a Bible argument in support of slavery. He appealed to the General Assembly, which decided that the action of the Synod was unconstitutional, null, and void, and ordered an amendment of the record. The Synod refused to amend. A memorial from Mr. Graham was laid before the Assembly, at its late session in Cincinnati, setting forth these facts, and praying that body to reinstate him. Some discussion ensued, which was at last closed by a resolution to return the memorial respectfully to its author, on the ground that it presented a question for the next Assembly.

A letter to the Dissenting Church of Scotland was reported by the committee appointed to prepare it. After some account of the condition and circumstances of the Presbyterian church in this country, it alluded to the Evangelical Alliance, approving of it in behalf of the Assembly.

Mr. Read thought that something should be inserted on the subject of Temperance. The Scottish church was as delinquent on that subject as the American church was on the slavery question. The Assembly consented that it should be introduced.

Mr. Snead wished the part stricken out which related to the Evangelical Alliance, because he could not approve any new organization which winked at slavery. The vote was taken, and the passage retained.

Mr. Skinner was opposed to the letter, because it contained nothing about slavery. That was the chief subject of the letter from the Scottish church. Something was due to respect.

It was accordingly voted that a report of the action of the Assembly on the subject should be inserted. This will be highly edifying to the Scottish brethren.

Rev. Mr. Dickey offered a resolution, to the effect that, since there was some doubt in the inferior Judicatories of the church in regard to the question of slavery, therefore it is resolved, that the word slaveholders be inserted after the word manstealers, in answer to the 142d question in the Catechism, in regard to those who are in the practice of sins forbidden in the Eighth Commandment; and that this amendment be sent down to the Presbyteries.

The Moderator decided that this was precluded by a rule of the House, that no subject once decided can be brought up without a vote of reconsideration of two-thirds; and that this related to the subject of slavery, which was one which had been so decided.

To this it was objected, that there had been no decision made in regard to this specific point.

The Moderator said that he supposed that the rule covered all questions in regard to slavery.

It was asked whether *any* question involving slavery would come under that rule.

The Moderator declined answering.

Rev. Mr. Bushnell appealed.

The decision of the Moderator was sustained—25 to 22.

It was then moved that the committee before whom the memorials in regard to this overture was laid, at the last General Assembly, be ordered to report.

It was decided that this was out of order, as the report could not be received and acted on by the House. It was also stated by the Moderator that he should rule all attempts to bring slavery before the Assembly out of order.

Drs. Cox and Beecher made a demonstration on the subject of the Evangelical Alliance, which both concurred in extolling as a tremendous instrumentality of good. The pith of the former's remarks on the subject of slavery is contained in the following paragraph reported in the Cincinnati Herald:

"He said that he himself believed that the doctrine that the relation between master and slave by law was essential sin, was essential *foolishness.* Still, he thought that not enough was done to get rid of this evil. Dragooning was being tried in all its force, but it would never do, neither would any attempt to shut them out from every privilege of Christians."

And again:

"Many of the English members drank more wine than would have been profitable to American reputation. It was a habit of education, and so was slavery. The English would not admit Temperance, and the Americans could not admit slavery."

And so idolatry is a habit of education. Suppose the Doctor forms an Evangelical Alliance with Pagans. The Doctor would associate slaveholders and men who drank more wine than would have been profitable to American reputation, in his Alliance, but not Unitarians, Universalists, or the Society of Friends. *Opinion*, with him, is all in all; *practice* nothing.

The final action of the Assembly, touching the question of slavery, is thus reported in the Cincinnati Herald:

"Dr. Stowe moved to reconsider the vote of Tuesday, sustaining the decision of the Moderator in regard to the overture presented by Rev. Mr. Dickey, and to refer the overture to the committee on the Constitutional revision, to let it take the usual course. The subject was one of too much importance to pass unnoticed. He did not think the decision of the Moderator a correct one in regard to it. The subject was one which had not been discussed or decided.

"Several members expressed themselves in favor of the motion, as being one which would tend to settle the whole matter.

"The chief point of the opposition was, that all these overtures and memorials on the subject of slavery were presented to the General Assembly at Philadelphia, and there referred to a committee, which reported upon the *whole* subject, in a report which was passed upon, thereby deciding this subject finally, except by reconsideration; and, on Tuesday, the Moderator decided the question of slavery, in any form, out of order, unless under a reconsideration vote of two-thirds. On the other, that the decision was erroneous; that the overtures had *not* been acted upon; that the subject was one of great import; that it could be acted on in no manner so clear and decisive as by overtures sent down to the Presbyteries, by them to be acted on in a manner that must be decisive and final.

"The motion to reconsider was lost—26 to 25, two-thirds being necessary."

For an account of the organization of a new Presbyterian church, by members of the New School Presbyterian denomination, see the fourth page of the *Era.*

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian (Old School) church met in Richmond, Virginia, towards the close of the last month.

Letters were received from the Presbyterian church in Ireland and the Free Church of Scotland, in which the subject of slavery occupied a prominent place. They were referred, *without being read*, to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence! Of course, these foreign churches would scarcely have taken the trouble to write the usual fraternal epistles to their brethren in the United States, if they could have suspected that the courtesy of a bare reading would be denied them.

Dr. C. C. Jones, from the said committee, reported letters in reply, *and these were read.* They declared that the position of the Assembly on the subject of slavery had been taken after due deliberation; and that it remained steadfast to its sentiments and opinions. It also intimated that, on this subject, the Assembly had agreed to differ with the churches across the water, and could not enter upon a discussion with them.

The question being on printing, Rev. James Kerr, of Ohio, inquired how they could understand what they were voting upon, unless the letters from Ireland and Scotland, to which these were replies, were read?

A very sensible question, Mr. Kerr.

The Moderator decided that the reading would be out of order, the letters having been referred, without being read, to the committee.

An appeal was taken, but the decision of the Chair was sustained.

Rev. J. M. Cook, of New York, immediately moved for a reconsideration of the vote referring the letters, and, on this motion, a warm debate sprung up, which is so instructive that we cannot forbear giving the most material parts to our readers. The report, which we abridge from the Presbyterian Herald, of Louisville, Kentucky, will speak for itself. To the Irish and Scotch churches "across the water," it will furnish food for reflection:

"Dr. Jones said the letters were what we knew as Abolition letters, and the answers to them plainly intimated that they could hold no correspondence with their friends across the water on the subject. How the Assembly could do anything else, he could not understand. He considered that the character of the letters sent to them was such that, were they read in this body, an unfavorable impression might be made as to the sentiment and views of the Presbyterian church, on the subject of slavery. *The committee were of opinion that they should not be brought before the Assembly by being read.* We have demonstrated to this Union (said he) that we are men of Christian character, and, actuated by a *dispassionate and wise judgment*, have maintained the harmony of our own deliberations, and stood firm in opposition to the strong tide of abolition feeling which has been directed upon us. It was their duty to maintain that position. Where should they stop the foreign correspondence, of the nature of that to which the committee had replied? Were they to be forever trammeled and embarrassed by the question it presented? He argued, that if two men, differing, agreed to confer together, and receive light mutually from each other, so that they might compromise their differences, and meet on a common platform, they might reach a just compromise upon which they could unite; but when, as in the case of the correspondence from their brethren over the water, an individual tells you that you are lost, hopelessly wrong, and only opens the argument for the purpose of driving you from your position, and of denouncing you if you do not yield everything to his view—why, in that case, you could only agree to differ, and let the matter drop there. This, said Dr. J., is precisely our condition. We could only say to the foreign churches, that we agreed to differ, and must each pursue our own course, upon our separate responsibility.

"Rev. Mr. Kerr declared that he had no idea of altering the wording of the answers. He was in favor of them. He had stood by the decision of the Presbyterian church in 1845; and he had incurred, perhaps, more odium therefor than had any other member of the Assembly. His only reason for calling for the reading was, that we might treat the churches over the water with respect, and *thus heap coals of fire on their heads.*

"Rev. Dr. Hoyt, of Georgia, said all who had seen the letters knew that one good reason why they should not be read was, that *they were not fit to be heard here.* He would humbly entreat the House *not to hear these letters at this time, unless they desired to produce harm.* He humbly questioned *whether it would be respectful to ourselves to answer letters at all, which could not be read with propriety in this House; and whether it would not be better to send in return a blank sheet of paper. If the letters were read, he should go out of the House.* He hoped brethren would not insist on the reading. *They might repent it.* The committee was a judicious one, and ought to be confided in. If any had the curiosity to read them, they could do so without requiring them to be publicly read.

"Rev. Mr. Cook said that he did not think it proper to answer that we had duly considered the letters, without hearing them read. He did not much object to the language of the answer; he did think it might be amended in some particulars; and did think there was a little too much temper in them, but, in the main, he agreed with them. Yet he hoped the ground taken by us was not so untenable that we could not bear to hear it controverted. *It was not surely to intimidate them that they were brought here into this city, and threats held over them.* It would be doing poor justice to the people of this city, and to the Presbyterian church, to make any such admission or imputation. He hoped that no veil of darkness was to be thrown around them, but that their position was altogether tenable, and could bear the light of investigation and scrutiny. If the letters were not to be read, then the *answers* ought not to have been read. The whole ought to be done in the dark.

"Mr. Lea contended that it was entirely out of order to move to reconsider the vote referring the letters.

"Rev. Mr. Robinson, of Ohio, said they were told that the letters were judiciously answered. It might be so, or it might not be so; and it was utterly impossible to decide, with any degree of common honesty, until they heard them read. He was sorry to hear a brother threatening to leave the House if they were read. He had hoped that all had Christian equanimity sufficient to listen to any denunciation those letters might contain, nay, even to downright ribaldry. Another brother had singularly conceived the idea that, if these letters were read, it might injure us and prejudice us in the public mind. It certainly did not follow, that because they listened to the reading of the sentiments of the Irish and Scotch churches, that they thereby became their (the Assembly's) sentiments. The idea was a decided *non sequitur.* Until the letters were read, we could not be prepared to answer them; certainly it would be untrue to say that we had duly considered them, in the language of the answers.

"Mr. McCandlish, of Ohio, would say that the answers nearly met his approbation. But let us see what the letters are. He would be slow to believe that the Free Church of Scotland would write an inflammatory letter, unfit to be read in this body. He would consider them; and he would have the Assembly to reply in the proper spirit, firmly and courteously maintaining the ground they had taken, meeting, as they had done, on a common platform, in amity and concord, as those should who trust in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Any other course than that he had indicated, he thought would neither be consistent with the dignity of the Assembly nor the liberty of speech.

"Rev. Mr. Junkin spoke upon the question of order of the motion pending, which he thought not in order.

"Dr. Hodge expressed his regret at the excitement and confusion which the body had evidently been thrown into. There was not an ecclesiastical body in the United States in which there was so much unanimity of sentiment on the subject of slavery as in the Presbyterian General Assembly. They were confused as to the questions of order. He thought the matter had better be postponed for the present, and moved that it be laid on the table.

"Dr. J. J. Janeway expressed a hope that the letters would be laid on the table, and that all who wanted to read them would take the opportunity of doing so.

"The matter was then temporarily disposed of by laying on the table."

The next day the subject was taken up.

"An interesting discussion then ensued; after which, it was resolved that they be read, with but one or two dissenting voices, which was done; and the letters drafted by Dr. Jones in reply to them, with very slight amendments, were adopted.

"The Stated Clerk was directed *to insert nothing in the minutes, without an order of the Assembly to that effect.*"

From which we infer that this whole proceeding, letters and all, were not to be inserted on the minutes!

The whole transaction, it strikes us, is unparalleled in ecclesiastical history.

A WORD IN SEASON.

The frequent bickerings among Anti-Slavery men are greatly to be deprecated. An esteemed friend in Ohio, in a private note to us, asks—

"Is it not cause of regret to the honest-hearted, and encouragement to the oppressor, to find that Anti-Slavery men fall out by the way. Though I think there is not much of that spirit to lay to thy charge, yet I have noticed some sentiments in the *Era*, which, it appeared to me, had better have been left out: as, for instance, the tone of defiance expressed by our friend ——, towards the editor of the Pennsylvania Freeman, and thy strictures on S. Foster's, what appeared to me, unjust censure of thy course. Let it be remembered, that a soft answer turneth away wrath, and that the law of love is omnipotent."

A word in season. Editors are never the worse off for such advice.

CHICAGO CONVENTION.

We notice movements in different parts of the country, for the appointment of delegates to the great Northwestern Convention, which is to meet at Chicago on the 5th of next month, to consider the best means of improving our lakes and rivers. From present appearances, it would seem that it will be a meeting without any distinction of party whatsoever. Indeed, no party feeling or calculation is to be consulted in its action. Its great object, the improvement of the inland seas of the country, is one to enlist the sympathies of patriots, not partisans. Distinguished men from all parts of the country will be present. We trust that its deliberations may be conducted in a wise and liberal spirit—that the "log-rolling" policy, which so often disgraces our legislation, may be utterly repudiated—that strictly constitutional objects may be sought in a constitutional way—and that the proceedings will be neutralized neither by latitudinarian extravagance nor hair-splitting abstractions.

THE RIGHT SPIRIT—THE POSITION OF THE WEST.

The *Morning Signal* of Cincinnati, an independent Democratic paper, asks—

"Shall the Northwest be a passive pendant to the intrigues of Eastern politicians, whether North or South? Must the press of this region serve only as a vane to the winds which sit in that quarter? If Clay had been elected President, the Whig press of Ohio would have echoed the utterance of the *Intelligencer;* and since Polk is installed President, the "office-seeking Democracy," who preside over the party organs of this region, pursue industriously and servilely the cue of the Washington *Union.* The result is to strip the free States of the Mississippi valley of all moral influence in the councils or cabinet of the nation. If the leading Democratic journals were edited with a tithe of the independence with which Charles Hammond conducted the Cincinnati *Gazette*, or William Leggett the New York *Evening Post*, Father Ritchie might wake to the conviction that the State of Ohio is no longer a colony of Virginia—that she is something more than a cipher in the arithmetic of parties, to be held of no account except when increasing tenfold the power of Atlantic or Southern politicians."

Spoken in the right spirit. The large and rapidly growing population of the West, its intelligence, moderation, great resources, and commanding position, entitle it to far more weight in the social and political system than Eastern or Southern politicians are willing to concede. The politicians of the older States are fond of acting upon the assumption that the West is yet in a state of pupilage; while the churches talk of it as a kind of heatheudom, barbarous, degenerate, chiefly valuable as missionary ground!

A Boston editor was lately enraptured with a sermon by Dr. Bushnell. We quote extracts from his sketch of it:

"The character of Micah" (who stole the treasure of his mother, and made an idol of them) "was a type of the age, and was produced by the natural tendencies of emigration. *These tendencies are to barbarism and superstition.* This point was illustrated by the history of Abraham and his descendants, and secondly by the history of New England."

"*The degeneracy of the emigrants to the West* was manifest in the murder of an innocent minister of the gospel in one of their cities, while the laws sleep unexecuted upon his grave. That superstition has crept in there, is proved by a temple and city dedicated to imposture and falsehood."

Under these impressions, adventurers from New England or New York go out to the West, expecting to see a mongrel, semi-civilized race, sitting in darkness and the shadow of death, and it takes at least a year to convince them that these "barbarous," "degenerate," "superstitious" people are, to say the least, quite as sensible and well informed as themselves, and perhaps a little more liberal.

It is true that the lamented Lovejoy fell while defending himself against a ruthless mob in Alton; but where is the city in the West which has been disgraced by bloody riots like that which for a time converted Philadelphia into a camp? And as for Mormonism, its author was an Eastern man, his followers were made up of recruits from all parts of the earth, and his temple was built in the West, just because the locality held out peculiar advantages.

We have lived long enough in the West to know that, with all its "barbarism," there are few emigrants from other sections of the Union who are not bettered by settling there. Let the West be true to itself, and there is no part of the country which will not feel its wholesome influence. It contains the germs of noble character. The Southerner with his pride and love of command, the Yankee with his universal genius, the New Yorker with his reckless enterprise, the Jerseyman with his industry and thrift, the plodding German, and warm-hearted Irishman, are constantly becoming fused into one mass, which is evolving a race distinguished by a fine combination of the best qualities of its original elements. Occupying as it does the centre of this Confederacy, sympathizing equally with all its parts, intimately associated with the East by its great lakes and railroads, passing its rich products by the Mississippi through the heart of the South, it is destined to be at once the conservative and controlling element of this Union.

What a degradation, then, to wait for the fashion of its politics from the East? It is too true that a large portion of the press of the West does not understand its real position or claims. We have amused ourselves at times with watching the course of its leading party papers. Let some unexpected crisis in politics take place, some new question be started, and, instead of deciding for themselves, and aiming to shape public sentiment accordingly, they back and fill, until advised, from headquarters in the East, what course to steer, and then you see them crowding on all sail, without any reference to the peculiar circumstances of their own navigation. The *Intelligencer* or *New York Courier and Enquirer* speaks, and in six days you hear the echoes in Cincinnati!

The people of the West should look to this matter, and require their editors to exercise their own judgments, and cultivate a little independence.

A large number of our readers will be interested to hear something of the present condition of the health, &c., of our esteemed associate, Rev. A. A. Phelps. He returned from his voyage to Hayti and Jamaica April 18th, and landed at New Orleans. From thence he went up the river; stopped at Memphis a short time, and at Cincinnati several weeks. Leaving that city, he took the cars, and came to New York by the Lake route. He is still there, but expects to leave on the 14th for Boston and Castine, Maine, where his family reside. Mr. Phelps is quite feeble, his disease (consumption) having made steady progress. He is able to sit up and write an hour or two a day, but converses with difficulty. It is not probable he will continue many months, and he seems to be in a delightful state of mind, feeling that the Saviour is mercifully preparing him to do and to suffer His righteous will. *

For the National Era.

HYMN OF THE STUDENT OF NATURE.

BY MISS ALICE CAREY.

I have learned to lean on my own soul, and not to look elsewhere for the reeds that a wind can break.—BULWER.

I know my humble lineage—that my way
Has led among life's valleys, and does still;
But destiny is as the potter's clay,
And we can make it glorious if we will!

Smiles settled on the lips of one who died
In the quick tortures of a fiery bed;
And they by less severe ordeals tried,
May surely to an equal strength be wed.

True, the poor things I deem'd my friends are gone,
But, Nature, thou at heart wilt still be kind;
For from thy naked bosom I have drawn
The sweetest draughts I ever hope to find.

Out in the tents of summer I have heard
Music that made me happy, not of art,
But the wild song of some sweet-throated bird,
That flowed, as all things best do, from the heart.

I will not chase the phantoms that are fled,
Nor like a lovesick dreamer pray to die,
Though I may have no shelter for my head,
But the blue curtain of God's equal sky!

But in some flowery nook, away from care,
Fanning my heart down to a pulse more even,
I'll build me beautiful palaces of air
For my soul's children, beings sweet as heaven.

And these shall be my friends, for friends like these
Can trouble with no yearning to depart,
And the cold kisses of the mountain breeze
Wake not the tale of Indus in the heart!

EDUCATION IN PRUSSIA.—All children in Prussia, between seven and fourteen are required to be educated, either at school or by their parents. The penalty on the parents, in case of neglect, is fine or imprisonment. The Prussians have improved on Mr. Webster's idea. Their Government is not the conductor, but the driver, of the people.

A NEW PARTY IN GREAT BRITAIN.

The course of the leading Whig members of Parliament in the matter of the endowment of the Maynooth (Catholic) College, their support of the education bill, which has recently become a law, and their distinct avowal of a disposition to connect by a pecuniary tie the British Government and the Catholic clergy, has greatly weakened, if not entirely destroyed, the confidence of the great body of the Dissenters in the "more favorable party," as they have heretofore regarded the Whigs. The old plea of the Divine right of the Episcopal church to a monopoly of State favor, and the religious duty of legislators to act as exclusive guardians of its dogmas and forms, has been abandoned. The whole matter has come to be regarded as one with which conscience has nothing to do; Church and State connection is only looked upon as a device for preserving public order—a police regulation. The religious sentiment, wholly irrespective of the doctrines to which it may cling, is considered a safe and sure instrument by which the Government may hold permanent sway over the people. To obtain the control of this sentiment, by bribing with gifts, endowments, and State protection, religious teachers of the prominent sects, is the object of both Whig and Tory statesmen. Hitherto the Dissenters have given their support to the Whig party, and have been the most active and efficient opponents of the Tories. They are now just beginning to discover that they have been "spending their strength for naught;" that there is in reality little to choose in any respect between the parties; that on the great question of religious liberty, they are equally unsound; and that both are now disposed to convert by bribes and subsidies the clergy of the various sects into police officers and Government catchpoles. Three years ago, a portion of the Dissenters held a convention, and formed what is called the British Anti-State Church Association, the constitution of which provides for a conference once in three years at least. This conference met at Crosby Hall, London, on the 4th of last month, Dr. Price, of London, in the chair. The following resolution was introduced by Edward Miall, the bold and uncompromising editor of the Nonconformist, and was adopted with only four dissenting voices:

"That this Conference, discerning no such difference of principles or practice between the leading political parties of the House of Commons as to render the support of either of them important to the welfare of the nation—having observed in both of them, during the present Parliament, a readiness to combine their efforts with a view to subsidize the teachers of religion, and thereby bring them under direct Government control—believing that they endanger by such policy, in proportion to the extent to which they adopt it, the highest temporal and spiritual interests of the people—and assured, by long experience, that they attach little importance to any opposition to their avowed designs which is not followed up by correspondent firmness at the poll-booth; solemnly commend to Dissenting electors throughout the three kingdoms the duty of employing the franchise intrusted to them by Divine Providence in vindication of those ecclesiastical principles which constitute the sole basis of religious freedom and equality, and of resolutely standing aloof from all contests at the approaching general election, in which an opportunity is not afforded them to record their testimony, by vote, against any form of alliance between the Church and the State."

In the debate which followed we were struck with the similarity of the arguments used by the speakers to those which are employed by the Liberty party and its opponents in this country. The speakers in favor of the resolution, Miall, Burnet, Vincent, and Campbell, took the ground that nothing was to be expected from the Whigs favorable to religious liberty; that they had abused the confidence and betrayed the interests of the long-forbearing and patient Dissenters; that the policy of the Government has been the same in their hands as in those of the Tories; and that, in consequence, the people of Great Britain are not even remotely interested in the controversy between them. Those who opposed it deprecated dabbling in politics; thought many of the Whigs were, on the whole, well-intentioned; and that it was unwise to separate from them on the single point of church endowment, which was indeed very important, but not sufficiently so to overshadow all other questions. Every Liberty man will recognise the applicability of the remarks which follow, from the eloquent Burnet, of Camberwell, one of the most popular of the Dissenting clergy, in reply to the objections of a member of the Conference, that an independent position on the part of the friends of religious liberty would place the Government in the hands of the Tories:

"One would think that the parties of this country were composed of two different sets of men—the one our kind and generous friends, the other our determined enemies. Now, if that gentleman can show me that the Whigs are better than the Tories, I will take the course that he proposes; but if, when the Tories are in, I find the Whigs giving money to Maynooth, putting out their hands to seize our little children before we can teach them, to teach them their own way; then taking the Roman Catholics and Wesleyans, and giving them Minutes and money, [laughter,] and then taking the mind and soul of our colonies abroad. If any one says, 'Do not let the Whigs out, for you will let the Tories in,' I reply, It is impossible that they could do worse than that. [Cheers.] But, let the Tories in, and when they are in, let the people look at them. They will see in their doings such a motley group of all sorts of measures, that they will turn them out without letting the Whigs in. We should then get rid of them both, and that is what we want. ['Hear, hear,' and cheers.] It is a matter of no moment whether a black or white thief is in. [Laughter.] If they are not honest men, they are thieves. I do say that our friend has not thought soundly about the wording of this resolution. The principle on which we generally go is, vote for the best men you can. I say, do not keep up that principle any longer; it has been the ruin of your cause. [Cheers.] I would let in a Tory as soon as a Whig, or rather sooner, because what did the Tories do? The old Tories were straightforward fellows; they used to come forward and say that 'The people are not to have any rule, they are not the fountain of power. We regard them as things to be ruled, and we are to rule these things.' [Laughter.] When a man talks that way, I understand him. The Whigs are civil and religious liberty men, and when they get into office they keep their civil and religious liberty for themselves, [cheers,] a liberty to remain in office without being constrained to say or do anything they do not like. You must put high pressure on those men; you must give them to understand that all they say, and all the indignation which they use in their sayings against the rising power of the people, only raises the tone of the popular mind, and then you will carry your object. [Cheers.] If you cut off the tail of the resolution, and leave it like a Manx cat, you will spoil it. [Roars of laughter.] The cats, it is said, in the Isle of Man, have no tails, and they are not very pretty specimens of their tribe. [Laughter.] If any man says that he does not think he is bound by the resolution, let him act as he thinks he is bound to do. When I vote for anything in a meeting like this, I stand by it; and whether I may lose a Whig or gain a Tory, is not a question with me, for they are both Tartars together. [Laughter.] I hope you will allow the resolution to pass as it is; otherwise, it is good for nothing; and that the Whigs will be given merely to understand that we are not to be frightened to their assistance for fear that we should catch a Tory. [Cheers.]"

Our friend Joseph Sturge, of Birmingham, in reply to the objection of those who, in the spirit of some of our Whig and Democratic Abolitionists, were very much afraid of lowering the cause by connecting it with decided political action, said:

"I am one of those who perhaps do not feel exactly with some of my friends present the distinction between things sacred and secular. But this I will say, that there are many excellent persons who have such a horror of things secular, what are called civil duties, that I believe they are very backward in discharging their obligations in this respect. I have urged what I believe will be found to be sound Scriptural truth, that civil and religious liberty are based upon the same great principle. I hope that I am not travelling out of order when I say that I feel satisfied that our friends who are contending for this question will not succeed till they fully recognise and act upon that principle; and not only so, but they would not be able to withstand the further encroachments of a church establishment. Look to what has recently taken place with regard to the education question. I do hope and trust that our friends will deeply and closely look to this question; for till they take cordially by the hand the laboring classes, [cheers,] and work with them—and I am satisfied that the very essence of Dissent is in democracy—we have no reasonable hope of success, and, more than that, I hold we do not deserve it. [Hear, hear.] I know that at a Conference similar to this, held three years ago, there was great sensitiveness if we touched on the connection between civil and religious liberty; I believe that conservatism gets about us, even when we are on the platform. [Hear, hear.] We must look this question fairly and fully in the face; and I speak the more freely, because I happen to be one of those that have been put conspicuously forth in some places. I sometimes think that some of us will be removed from our works to our rewards before the complete triumph of civil and religious liberty takes place. But I believe that they are inseparably united; and the more I look on Christian ground at this question, the more I am convinced that we shall not carry the one without the other. [Cheers.]"

The speech of Henry Vincent, the Free Suffrage orator, appears to have moved the Conference in no slight degree. Imagine a great assembly of grave divines and deacons starting up and waving their hats above their heads, with cheers and cries of "Hurrah!" It is satisfactory to see, by such a demonstration of *human* feeling on the part of British dissenting ministers, that they have not sunk the man in the priest; and that they do not consider themselves debarred by their clerical office from hearty and active participation in the rights and duties of citizens. We give the concluding paragraph of the speech in question, strongly commending it to those ministers and laymen in our own country, who, while professing, and, perhaps in some cases believing themselves to be "genuine friends of liberty," give their vote and their political and sectarian influence in favor of slavery:

"We keep our principles in old antiquated volumes. We bring them down when our friends are assembled—blow off the dust, and then say, these are our principles. [Laughter.] We get warm at public meetings—we teach our children sometimes to admire the men whose memories we revere; but when we are called upon to sacrifice the smiles of great men, to lose the trade of a rich customer, to brave the frown of an archdeacon, we wind, cringe, and hide ourselves behind any petty excuse, and, at the same time, endeavor to believe that we are the genuine friends of liberty, while we are apostates to it. [Loud cheers.] Let me invoke you to be more faithful in the discharge of duty. If there be any truth in the greatness of the cause in which you are now engaged—if there be any glory in the men who have pioneered the way for Nonconformists—if the spirits of the martyrs could enter this hall—if the features of those, imprinted on Nonconformist literature in letters of livid flame upon the statute book of England, whose spirits imparted soul to the Commonwealth, to keep it alive in the midst of disastrous times, could be present, there would not be one of them, from Sir Harry Vane up to the great leader, our own beloved Cromwell, but who would say to you, 'Inasmuch as you wish to be faithful to the principles for which we struggled and bled, away with all base inconsistency and political expediency, and now go, for your country and the world, to the poll-booth, for men in whom you have confidence, or eternal disfranchisement rather than pollute your souls.' [Immense cheering, accompanied with waving of hats and cries of 'Hurrah.']"

The "one idea" of this new party is briefly this: "Entire separation of the State from the Church, and perfect freedom of religion and education." It was stated in the Conference that but one member of the present Parliament, John Bright, the Quaker representative of Durham, was willing to advocate this doctrine in its fullest extent. In short, that the one million of British Dissenters had but a single voice in the National Legislature. It was stated by one of the speakers, however, that there were sixty boroughs where the successful candidates at the last election received only from three to fifty majority, and in which the Dissenters held the balance of power.

We are pleased to see, by the tone of the debates in the Conference, that the contemplated movement has no connection with the old "No Popery" party, which, with its own religious hobbies tied comfortably at the crib of State patronage, quarreled with the poor Irish Catholics for asking the same privilege for theirs. The Anti-State Church Association, on the contrary, expressly admits that the Catholic has an equal claim with the Protestant upon State protection and bounty. It does not seek to remove one set ~~of ecclesiastical State paupers to make room for~~ another, but advocates the entire severance of all connection between Church and State—the absolute freedom and independence of religion. This is a noble and praiseworthy object, and those engaged in it have a just claim upon the cordial sympathy of the friends of civil and religious liberty throughout the world. J. G. W.

NEW HAMPSHIRE—THE WILMOT PROVISO.

The new Democratic Governor of New Hampshire follows the example of Governor Dana, of Maine, in decided opposition to the increase of slave territory. In his message, delivered at the opening of the legislative session, he uses the following language:

"Slavery is indeed opposed to our free institutions, and injurious to the highest interests of the nation; and our duty to our Republican institutions, and to the honor and glory of the country, requires us to use all honorable and lawful means to prevent its further extension. The members of our last Congress from the free States of our Confederacy have well declared, by their votes for what is termed the Wilmot Proviso, their fixed and unalterable purpose to oppose the further extension of slavery, and the admission of any more slave territory to the Union. This vote has given form and substance to the united desires of the people of these States—has made a deep lodgment in their hearts, and justly received, through their primary assemblies, their cordial response and approval. The proposition contained in this proviso, embodying as it does the determined will and true principles of the American people, affords a pledge that these principles will be faithfully carried out in our national legislation, which must give joy to every friend of the Union and rational freedom."

Let John P. Hale and the Liberty men of New Hampshire take courage! This testimony against slavery, wrung from the reluctant hands of the old pro-slavery Democracy of their State, is the first of their labors. The days of mean subserviency to the slave interest on the part of New England men are numbered. No party or set of men will from henceforth venture to take the ground occupied by the Democratic party in New Hampshire previous to the protest of John P. Hale against the "Texas iniquity." J. G. W.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE NATIONAL ERA.

NEW YORK CORRESPONDENCE.

New York, *June* 14, 1847.

PUBLIC DINNER TO MR. WHEATON.

A public dinner was given, on Thursday last, at the New York Hotel, to Mr. Wheaton, late representative of the United States at Vienna, better known as the judicious author of the Digest of International Law. Gentlemen of all creeds and professions united in this demonstration of respect, and the occasion brought together a more respectable representation of the intellect of the city than I have seen for a long time.

The Hon. Albert Gallatin presided for a short time, but, in consequence of feeble health, was obliged to vacate the chair and retire before the cloth was removed. He is one of the most venerable of men. His fine head, entirely bald, his aquiline nose, his mouth and chin, severely classical, and his large blue eyes, which are full of intelligence and feeling, all made up the aspect of a wise and good man, such as I have beheld on the canvass of some of the old masters, and is only too rarely to be met with in the midst of this worldly generation. After Mr. Gallatin retired, the Hon. Luther Bradish, formerly Lieutenant Governor of the State, took the chair. He is a large, coarse, heavy, man, not without a good deal of natural dignity and abundant self-possession, of which a perpetual smirk gives you full assurance. In fact, Mr. Bradish is an admirable representation of that class of men, who, by virtue of large bones, a large voice, a large swagger, and a large head of frizzly hair, are always chosen to preside at public meetings, act as foremen of grand juries, and, undisputed, enjoy the lion's share on all occasions of public and private guzzling. Who ever saw a little, active, smart, intellectual man, in the chair at a public meeting or a public dinner? I never saw a diminutive chairman except once, and that was at a celebration of the St. George's Society, of New York. On that occasion, the President was a little "hop o' my thumb," meek as Moses, and with a very weak treble voice. How it happened that he came to fill the chair, I never could ascertain, and, till this day, have not recovered from my surprise, which was nowise diminished from the fact that John Bull had at the end of one of the tables, as *Vice* President, a real *bona fide*, beef-devouring representative, in the person of a sturdy rascal, with a chest like that of a Hercules, an enormous head, and gills as red as a turkey cock's!

Well, after the cloth had been removed, Mr. Bradish gave three knocks on the table, and admonished the company to prepare themselves for the toast-drinking part of the ceremonies. After the popping of corks had ceased, and the waiters had fallen back to their places, the chairman proceeded to deliver a very highflown eulogium on Mr. Wheaton, a thin, pale, studious-looking man, who reminded me a good deal of Mr. Senator Morehead. Mr. Bradish's oration, which had been evidently carefully written out in cold blood, was quite in the mock-heroic strain, and must have been fashioned after the model of the Irish rhetorician—"First blow out her brains wid the blarney, and then you can make your terms, my darlint!" However, Mr. Wheaton stood it like a hero. Mr. Bradish came once or twice to a stand still. Probably he was overwhelmed with emotion. The health of Mr. Wheaton was then drank, "with all the honors;" that is to say, the company started to their feet, drained their glasses, and then shouted till they grew black in the face. It was certainly rather amusing. Grave doctors, lawyers, judges, merchants, and authors, whirling their empty glasses in air, and screaming aloud like so many maniacs! Thus, then, was Mr. Wheaton's health drank "with all the honors."

Mr. Wheaton then rose, and with a little convulsive twitching about the angles of his lips, and his right hand placed over the folds of his waistcoat, bowed his thanks to the company. He then apologized for his utter inability to give utterance to the feelings which agitated his bosom, as much as to say—

"I am no orator as Bradish is!"

Then consulting his notes, he begged to express the surprise and delight with which he had beheld the many evidences of the growth and progress of prosperous New York. Twenty years had elapsed since he had set out on his mission to Europe. The Croton aqueduct and the success of ocean steam navigation were particularly dwelt upon by Mr. Wheaton, as evidences of the increase of wealth and civilization amongst us.

Several other toasts were drank and speeches made, but the former were merely complimentary to individuals, and the latter were exceedingly dull. Indeed, I was very much surprised by the flatness which characterized the affair, from beginning to end. There was unquestionably, so I was bound to believe, a great deal of genius, intelligence, and talent, assembled; but certainly it was not "brought out," so as to give zest and interest to the occasion. There was not a particle of enthusiasm excited throughout the whole evening. Was it because political subjects and political feeling were wholly excluded? But they met to welcome Mr. Wheaton, a man of worth, of high intelligence, of tried fidelity to the interests of his country. Why, then, were they so solemn? The fact is, these public dinners have become great bores, and they are felt to be great bores. It is always the same stereotyped nonsense, unmeaning twaddle, empty panegyric, mock sentiment, and champagne, awkward waiters, and cold-pudding philanthropy! Men compliment and bespatter one another. They know perfectly well that "there's nothing in it!" They talk largely about their beloved country, and they know "there's nothing in it!" They are running over with liberality and benevolence, and they all feel "there's nothing in it!"

Yes, it is quite time that these silly farces, called public dinners, with their pompous "getters-up," who secure free admissions to the feast, and free advertisements in all the papers; and their stale "sentiments," which have nothing sentimental in them or about them; and their frothy speeches, to which nobody listens but the poor reporters; and their wild "hep, hep, hurrahs," which frighten all the children in the neighborhood; and their vile viands, and champagne which is cider, and horrid headaches of next morning—were given up forever! If you want to welcome a worthy man, or to celebrate the anniversary of a noble public charity, or to spread the triumphs of some great principle or honorable cause, by a festivity, let it be one in which dear woman can unite with us, and to which all the graces and refinements of a highly civilized and intellectual ~~society will communicate dignity and interest.~~ Such occasions of social intercourse and enjoyment are needed. They would contribute very much to soften and improve our manners, and, by this mingling of the sexes, would largely augment the amenities and enjoyments of life.

A ROW AMONGST THE DENTISTS.

Next to editors, dentists should be ranked as the greatest public benefactors. How could we do without either? They are the pioneers of high civilization, always marking the progress of intellectual enlightenment and the wonderful science of cookery. It is only in such "dark places" of the earth as the Highlands of Scotland, or some "Typee" of the watery waste, that dentists now are unknown. It has, therefore, been with no ordinary feeling of interest that I have observed the recent out-burst of a terrible controversy between two of the most distinguished dental practitioners here. It has convulsed the whole town. "Parmely" and "Castle"—"gold" and "amalgam"—the watchwords of this awful intestine war, have resounded everywhere from Union Park to the Battery. The controversy arose in this way: A gentleman named Ames died lately at Springfield, in Massachusetts; and a few days afterwards a paragraph appeared in one of the Eastern papers, informing its readers that the gentleman had been "killed by bad dentistry;" that, some years ago, he had had his teeth filled in Paris; that he had swallowed the filling; and that it, being poisonous, had ruined his health. This alarming announcement was immediately republished, with comments, by Mr. Parmely, a dentist in the upper part of the city, in the "Tribune." Mr. Parmely informed the public that Mr. Ames had undoubtedly been "killed" by an amalgam of quicksilver and silver, used in filling the teeth; and reminded everybody that he, "Eleazer Parmely," had always cautioned them against the "knavish" dentists who used such an amalgam. Then came out Dr. Castle, the fashionable dentist of Broadway, who ridiculed the idea of Mr. Ames's death being the result of the use of an "amalgam filling," and stoutly defended that mode of treating decayed teeth as being perfectly safe, and, in many cases, vastly superior to the gold fillings. The controversy then proceeded with great vigor, and at one time threatened to be as interminable as the Mexican war. But at length, I am happy to say, it has reached a peaceful termination; for an investigation at Springfield has shown that the paragraph about Mr. Ames's death was altogether unfounded, and so the fears of the old ladies whose molars were filled with "amalgam" having been forever allayed, Castle and his "amalgam" once more rule the day!

ONE OF OUR PIOUS EDITORS.

The "Journal of Commerce" is one of those peculiarly saintly papers which ceases not to exclaim, "Stand off, for I am holier than thou!" It affects the most rigid puritanical propriety. A family quadrille gives it the most alarming convulsions. Its holy nostrils are continually offended by the stench of an ungodly world. I was rather surprised this morning, therefore, to perceive in its first column, under the editorial head, a long and glowing account of the career and death of an infamous woman in the French metropolis! After describing her beauty and accomplishments, and the splendid luxury of her apartments, the pious writer in the pious "Journal" of the pious David Hale, styles this Parisian prostitute "one of the most enchanting Aspasias of the metropolis!"

GENERAL NEWS, ETC.

The judicial election resulted in favor, generally, of the Democratic ticket. The "lawyers' ticket," in the city, was elected. In general, the selections have been good.

The Homœopathists have been holding their annual convention in Boston last week.

The largest casting ever made in the United States was witnessed last Saturday afternoon, on occasion of the casting of the bed plates of the steamship *United States*, (Charles H. Marshall's line,) one of four packets of 2,200 tons each, intended to run between New Orleans and Liverpool. Messrs. Secors' foundry is at the corner of Ninth street and avenue D, occupies the entire block, (almost,) and employs some 400 workmen, founders of iron and brass, blacksmith's pattern makers, &c.

The cost of the engines for the *United States* will be $115,000, or about $15,000 more than those of the *George Washington*, and the bed plate employed 50 or 60 men, with three cupola furnaces, a few minutes over three hours in casting. They melted 27 tons, or more, of metal, and the casting would weigh over 24 tons, or some 54,000 lbs.; the red-hot melted metal was poured into a couple of kettles, holding perhaps a ton each, with *suitable ladles*; a couple of receivers were placed at the ends of the casting, which measures 27 feet by 8, and the contents of the huge kettles were poured into them by the aid of an enormous crane and a block and tackle—charcoal in quantities being thrown on the surface, to keep up the intense heat at the surface. When the receivers had, each, 13 tons of melted metal in them, a lever was raised, the liquid cast iron ran in two streams into the prepared mold, and the whole was done as methodically as if it had been the casting of a potash kettle.

The cold-air blast furnace was used. The greater part of the metal was from Irondale, in Pennsylvania, but there were several tons of Scotch with it; when melted, it passed into the mold through four holes, each three inches square. The whole arrangements were really admirable.

I am glad to perceive that the poor immigrants are attracting the attention of the benevolent. A suggestion has been made by an intelligent correspondent of the "Boston Daily Advertiser," to which I gladly give the additional publicity of your columns. He proposes that the city government of Boston "should purchase a number of acres of land, at Government prices, in some one of the Western States or Territories, to which these persons, coming here to escape starvation, may be removed. Each one, with such family as he may have, is to be furnished with land enough to commence the life of a farmer. He is to be asked to pay nothing at first for his situation, but year by year, as his condition improves, he is to be taxed something toward the expenses of the general institution. If he is successful, he will in five years own a farm, and the city will have been paid for it. If he is not successful, the loss will be small to every one, and probably nothing to the city. The improvements made in a few months by each settler would probably furnish ample security for the advances made them."

Let this plan be studied.

John Smith the Younger.

LETTER FROM BALTIMORE.

The Ship-fever Panic dying away—Action of the City Councils on the subject—Death of a Sister of Charity at the Infirmary—The Railroad Controversy—Town Meeting on the subject—Juvenile Crime—Course of the Independent Police—Turner's Case, with some plain comments on the course of the Attorney General in relation to it, &c.

Baltimore, *June* 14, 1847.

To the Editor of the National Era:

The *panic* caused by the death of Major James O. Law, of ship fever, has ceased in a way which affords a curious instance of the extreme *impressibility* of our population—that quality which makes it so very easy to get up an excitement here, about almost anything, and to allay it, often as readily. Last week many of our citizens appeared almost frantic at a few poor, afflicted, homeless and friendless Irish emigrants being allowed the privilege of dying in the Baltimore Infirmary, because, as it was alleged, the disease *might* spread therefrom into the neighborhood! Even a town meeting was talked of, and actually announced in the daily papers, as likely to take place, for the purpose of "the people taking the matter into their own hands," after regular mob fashion! These threats probably had one effect intended; for Dr. Cockey introduced speedily, in the City Council, where it was passed, an ordinance providing for the protection of the community against "ship fever" in future, and contemplating the removal of all existing cases to public buildings, to be erected on the south side of the Patapsco river. Instantly the public mind appeared to obtain ease, and the panic ceased, as if the mere promulgation of an "ordinance" had remedied the whole evil! as if said buildings could be erected in a day; whereas, as a matter of course, the patients in the Infirmary and elsewhere will either have gone to their anticipated home in the great West, or that *other* home to which we are all destined, long before these arrangements can possibly be made.

One of the Sisters of Charity, who has long and patiently acted the part of a ministering angel at the Infirmary, died, the other day, of the ship fever. She bore the name of "Corinna;" her worldly name having been Mary Fledderdam. The other Sister, who was announced as ill of the fever, is understood to be convalescent. Dr. Morrison, the resident physician, is quite ill now, and two of the resident students are also sick of the same dreaded disease. Dr. Miltenberger, one of the visiting physicians, had an attack, but has recovered. It must have been slight, for I observed him on Saturday, going the rounds of his profession, apparently but little the worse of the wear. Doctors often get over the same disease much more speedily than their patients! I won't hint the main reason of this, for fear of being charged with betraying the secrets of the profession! Besides, it might lead some ~~people to infer that I was not a believer in the~~ saying that "all trades are dishonest, but ours."

The question of railroad route is still a leading one among our business men, causing much discussion in the papers and in private circles. A town meeting was held one day last week, which was presided over by John Glenn, Esq., one of our most influential lawyers, who was, if I remember aright, one of the committee lately appointed to visit Pittsburg, in behalf of the President and Directors of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company. A long, and, it is said, able and convincing report was made to this meeting, by John L. Carey, Esq., urging the propriety of immediately accepting the Pittsburg route, as the surest, the cheapest, and the best, instead of further awaiting the pleasure of the Virginia Legislature on the subject. This is a wise recommendation. The course of the Railroad company, in relation to the matter, has, to my mind, been a standing insult to this community, and an instance of most criminal tampering with the interests of the public, while the way in which the Pittsburg and Connellsville company has been used as a "cat's paw," would be positively intolerable to any people less patient and forbearing than our Pittsburg neighbors! Indeed, this whole railroad courtship has been carried on in a mode decidedly *coquettish* in appearance; and I should be disposed to treat it with a contemptuous ridicule, as such, and characterize it as a huge farce, had I not good reason to believe that powerful influences have been at work. There is an immense speculation in prospect at the Virginia *terminus*, some of the participators in which are known to me, but I withhold their names for prudential reasons. Some facts, not a little curious and instructive, as illustrative of the *private* motives by which mankind are not unfrequently actuated in their public acts, may yet leak out, unless the Baltimore company should come to its senses, under the "one-man power" of its distinguished President, and speedily give us a business connection with the great Ohio region, by the Pittsburg route—a consummation most devoutly to be wished, as giving our poor collapsed trade a chance to recover, so far as retarding *home* circumstances will permit.

We have had another instance of that juvenile depravity so prevalent in our city, and of which I had occasion to say agood deal in one of my earlier letters—the case of a junior dry goods clerk, boring into the premises of his former employer, and, by dint of his familiarity therewith, using the keys of their safe, for the purpose of successfully abstracting money therefrom, to be spent in "riotous living" at Bob Ramsey's, and elsewhere! I allude to the affair now, not so much for the purpose of comment on the various phases of its precocious criminality, as to speak of the course pursued by some of our "*independent* police" in eliciting testimony to favor their selfish end, which is not the promotion of justice, but the procurement of publishable rewards and other payments for services rendered in their line. Some of our "nice young men" have gone to a certain house of ill fame with the alleged money-thief, and helped him to spend there a portion of the stolen funds; and one of the policemen getting hold of this fact, through his own acquaintance with the mistress of the said house, "the firm," of course, set about ferreting, after their usual fashion. They took youth after youth from the stores to their "private room," and there resorted to means well befitting an Inquisition—striving to frighten these timid youngsters, whom they had chosen to suspect, into admissions. I have it from the lips of one of them, that they put questions utterly unwarrantable in themselves, and worse in tone and manner—there being no trial at the time, remember! Now, this inquisitorial system ought to be forbidden by the proper authorities. It takes advantage of the poor and the ignorant, the young and the timid; and, in the case of these youths, whose character is their fortune, it is a system of ineffable wrong and cruelty! Why, the very fact of being known to have ever darkened the door of a police office, might be enough to ruin the brightest of prospects forever!

The celebrated bank case came up before the city court, on Saturday. I allude to the case of Richard J. Turner, charged with stealing money from the Mechanics' Bank, while employed therein as clerk. The humiliating spectacle was witnessed in court, of the Attorney for the Commonwealth actually asking for the removal of the case to some adjoining county, on the plea that "the State of Maryland cannot have a fair and impartial trial" in the City Court! Now, the meaning of this avowal is just this: The jury of a late term acquitted Turner of this very charge, after the prosecuting attorney had done his duty. It seems the attorney was not satisfied with this, but proceeded to procure a new indictment for the same offence, contrary, as it strikes me, to the very Constitution under which we live, which provides that *no man shall be put in jeopardy of life or limb twice for the same offence.*

But it is said he went further than even this, and actually argued the case before the grand jury, for the purpose of obtaining said new indictment! I give this from rumor, sincerely hoping it may not be true. If it be true, then do I say, that a glaring wrong has been perpetrated. Whatever may be the law, *precedent* will not bear the Attorney General out in this course; and it does seem to me that, since the promotion of justice, not "conviction merely," is the purpose of this high office, Attorney General Richardson ought to have rested satisfied in doing his duty *before the Court*, in this case, and, in all future cases, to await the *independent* action of the co-ordinate branch of the Judiciary—the grand jury—there letting *his agency* begin. Any other course will look like *persecution*, rather than "prosecution," and be talked of accordingly. The fact is, this case of Turner's is fast assuming a new feature, and a perilous one in the extreme. It is causing much talk against "the Banks," as well as the State's Attorney; and this course of vexatious delay will only serve to fan the flame of popular prejudice against the one party, and that of sympathy for the other. I confess that my own feelings have been greatly changed by the extraordinary course pursued, and my indignation has run, at times, very high—so high that I almost feared to trust myself to comment on the subject at all, not for fear of that "bugbear" charge of "contempt of court," but because one feature of this case, if true, (viz: the argument before the grand jury, under the circumstances,) presents itself to my view, as an encroachment on all that we have been wont to consider equal and exact justice between the Commonwealth and the individual citizen! J. E. S.

Boston, *June* 12, 1847.

Mr. Editor: Last Monday (which, by-the-way, was a most glorious day, and one of the best specimens of summer which have appeared among us this season) the "Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company" held its annual meeting, elected officers, and ate a dinner. According to immemorial custom, the Governor of the State should have been here, to have given the newly-chosen officers their commissions; but official or other duties called that worthy personage in another direction, and the duties of his station were, on this occasion, duly performed by another. The day was so fine that the Common was covered with people, assembled to witness the evolutions of the company, to breathe the fresh air, and to see and be seen.

In addition to the military parade, there were a variety of other sights and sounds to be seen and heard, which contributed not a little to the fun and merriment of the day. Organ grinders, with and without monkeys, (the former is "Yankee Doodle's" definition of "organic sin,") boys in cowhide boots, exhibiting specimens of the polka for two cents "a-go," and, above all, the equipage of General Thumb, who arrived in town in the morning, and took up his quarters at the Revere House.

During the past few weeks, a "vile imitation," as the quack-medicine advertisements say, has been exhibiting as the veritable Tom Thumb, and has moreover found for himself a partner of life's changes, to whom he is shortly to be married; but the arrival of the genuine article casts him badly into the shade, and he will be forced to leave the ground, in at least an annular eclipse, for the little General is so much smaller, that the other may perhaps appear *around his edges.*

The Charlestown folks have been raising quite a breeze in the execution of their measures for preventing the landing of pauper passengers from foreign places, in that city. The other day, a vessel having arrived there with passengers, the captain was not permitted to land them, on the ground that the capitation tax had not been paid in Charlestown, but in Boston. This tax, be it remembered, is paid into the State treasury, and not to the city; but with the thoroughness of execution, for which "new brooms" are proverbial, the authorities were inexorable, and the vessel was forced to put off into the stream. During the night, an attempt was made to land the passengers privately, but, the design having been discovered, a large number of citizens hastened down to the wharf, armed with various instruments of warfare, and, by their well-timed threats, and the pugnacious attitudes they assumed, they effectually drove back the terrified emigrants, who returned on shipboard until the following morning, when they quietly landed in Boston. The reason assigned by the captain for desiring to land in Charlestown, instead of Boston, was, that his freight was principally railroad iron, which was designed to be taken on the Fitchburg road, and ~~it could be thus brought much nearer than if~~ landed in Boston.

The ship fever seems to be rather on the increase in the city at present, and several of our physicians are suffering from its effects. There are not less than 846 passengers now in quarantine, off Deer Island; and, from a single vessel, thirty-one cases of fever were carried to the hospital last week. The City Government have bought the lease of Deer Island from the lessee, and have commenced putting up large buildings for the accommodation of the sick emigrants who may arrive, and have appointed Dr. Moriarty surgeon of the establishment.

Two handsome donations have been made within a few days, by the Lawrences, of this city, to Harvard and Williams colleges. Amos Lawrence has given to the latter the sum of $2,000. The interest of this money is to be devoted to the founding of four scholarships of $30 each. Mr. Lawrence has also signified his intention of giving $1,000 more, in July, for the purpose of fitting up a fountain in front of Lawrence Hall, and building bathing rooms for the students.

Hon. Abbott Lawrence has given to Harvard the sum of $50,000, to be appropriated in enlarging the school for the practical sciences. He proposes that $30,000 of it shall be expended in buildings, including an extensive laboratory, and the remainder go towards founding two professorships, one of engineering and another of geology, both in application to the practical arts, like the Rumford professorship of chemistry, now existing.

The papers are coming down pretty hard on the Jamaica Pond Water Company, in consequence of the impurities contained in the water, together with a strange, mysterious, and no ways pleasant taste and smell with which it has for some time past been affected. There have been much speculation as to the cause of the taste and smell, and a variety of learned theories have been started upon the subject, but the nuisance has remained unabated. The murder is out at length, and the cause of the evil discovered, in the shape of several dead eels in a putrescent state, which were taken from the lead service pipe, the other day, by some workmen who were laying the new pipes on Broad street. In addition to the amount of departed dogs and cats held in solution in the water, the eels have proved to be neither agreeable nor nutricious, as several cases of sickness have occurred, which it is supposed are to be attributed to this cause. G. F. B.

LATER FROM VERA CRUZ.

Santa Anna at Rio Frio—Horrid Cruelty—Murder of Col. Sowers, Bearer of Despatches, &c.

The U. S. steamer Fashion, Capt. Ivy, arrived at New Orleans on the 3d inst., having left Vera Cruz on Sunday, the 30th ult.

We learn, verbally, that Santa Anna, at the latest accounts, was believed to be at Rio Frio, fortifying that pass, and aiming to defend it with a force differently estimated at from six to ten thousand men. It is not certain when Gen. Scott reached Puebla, or whether the army had advanced beyond that town, as the destruction of the diligence had interrupted communication between Xalapa and Vera Cruz, and consequently put a stop to the transmission of authentic intelligence.

The rainy season was ushered in at Vera Cruz by copious showers during the mornings of the 27th and 28th, which had lowered the temperature and greatly refreshed the inhabitants.

We were informed yesterday, says the Eagle of the 29th, that six Mexicans, coming in from Santa Fe, were attacked and robbed by their own countrymen. This is the natural result of the atrocious guerrilla warfare now attempted to be waged.

The fate of the diligence between Vera Cruz and Xalapa is now positively ascertained. It left the first-named city on the 22d ult., and carried no passengers. When it had proceeded about two miles the other side of Puente Nacional, it was stopped, robbed, and destroyed, by being broken up and burned. The driver and postillion were both released, and permitted to go on to Xalapa. The vehicle that ought to have arrived at Vera Cruz on the 24th, stopped when the driver reached where the other was robbed, and returned to Xalapa.

Another Massacre.—From information received at Vera Cruz, there is little doubt that Col. Sowers and five soldiers have fallen victims to Mexican cruelty. That officer left Vera Cruz on Sunday, the 23d ult., with an escort consisting of five men and Lieut. McDonnell, of Capt. Wheat's company. They arrived in safety at Santa Fe, and lodged there during the night. Finding that Capt. W. had left, and learning that he could not be more than 30 miles in advance, they determined to push on for Xalapa, with an addition of two more men. Nothing had been heard of them for several days, and their fate was involved in the deepest mystery.

On the 28th, a gentleman arrived at Vera Cruz, from whom the editor of the Eagle learned that he had seen, at a point two miles beyond Puente Nacional, the ruins of a diligence, and underneath a human body, stripped of its clothing, and horribly mutilated. Near him lay another body, likewise naked, and mangled in the same shocking manner. The gentleman added, that five more bodies had been thrown among the chapparel. The number killed, with the supposition that one escaped, corresponds so entirely with the force that accompanied Col. Sowers, as to leave no doubt that he and his companions were massacred by guerrilleros.

Commodore Perry arrived at Vera Cruz on the 24th ult., from his expedition along the Mexican coast. He reached Laguna on the 16th, and the next day ran up the national flag in the town. Capt. G. A. Magruder was appointed governor of Laguna.

As the possession of Laguna cuts off water communication with the interior of Tabasco, it is deemed important to keep it securely.

The Eagle says that suspicions are afloat of a design on the part of some of the Mexicans at Vera Cruz to foment insubordination and create a revolt against the American authority. It warns them that they are known and watched, and that the first overt act will be severely punished.

From the Baltimore Sun.

LATEST FROM MEXICO.

By the arrival at New Orleans, on the morning of the 7th, of the steamship New Orleans, the Commercial Times received full files of papers and regular correspondence up to the time of her sailing from Vera Cruz, which port she left on 1st instant.

Vera Cruz, *May* 31, 1847.

The city is alive with rumors from the interior, not one of which, however, takes a shape that, in my opinion, justifies any degree of confidence. Puebla is reported to have risen against the Americans; and, after a loss of 800 men, our troops are said to have evacuated the city, and subsequently to have commenced its bombardment. The latter is an impossibility, which throws more discredit upon the report than it would otherwise deserve.

Another report, by way of Orazaba, tells us that Santa Anna is still in the Presidential chair; that Valencia is commander-in-chief of the army, and old Nicholas Bravo is Governor of the State of Mexico. Juan Alvarez, whom you may remember as the Sonora robber, and friend of Santa Anna, is said to be rapidly approaching with ten thousand of his Indian retainers, in arms, and is expected to extirpate the "Yankees" utterly. The poor fellows "will not know what is the matter with them" if they once get within reach of Worth's or Twiggs's bull dogs.

The yellow fever, *el vomito*, as it should be called, is now getting really serious amongst us. Thirteen cases terminated fatally yesterday, and to-day already I have heard of the death of three individuals whom I personally knew. Two of these are from New Orleans, Mr. Cohen, of the firm of Simeusfeld & Cohen, and a Mr. Michael, more recently from Tampico. Colonel Kearney, the Government contractor, is now lying in a very dangerous state, and people are thus falling around me.

June 1.—Our reports of Herrera's election prove to have been premature, to say the least of it. Santa Anna is at the capital, in much less discredit than we have been led to believe, and in the full exercise of the functions of his office. Upon his arrival, he proposed to resign his seat, but contrived matters so as to have his proposition rejected. An election will take place on the 13th instant, when it is hoped that Herrera will be chosen; but Santa Anna's creatures are too numerous, and his position now too favorable for the control of the required interests, to permit me to indulge in such a hope, in any degree confidently.

He expresses an intention to fortify the town, at least with a large ditch and embankment, and to place a force in the city capable of keeping off the Americans. For these purposes he demands four hundred thousand dollars, and has impressed all the horses and mules that can be reached.

A letter from a well-informed German merchant of the capital, to his brother in this city, says that Santa Anna has within his control a force of near ten thousand men, besides those on their way under Alvarez, and that he will soon have an army around him capable of annoying if not seriously opposing Gen. Scott.

It is very probable that the people of the capital are quite as ignorant as ourselves on these subjects; and although I treat their opinions with respect, I do not adopt them. Santa Anna evidently gives an importance to Alvarez's movement to which it is not entitled, and it is doubtful whether he will get a reinforcement from this source of three thousand men. Valencia and Bravo are said to have resigned their respective commands. The Government is to be established at Morelia.

No disturbance whatever has taken place at Puebla; on the contrary, the people, both of the city and country, seem to be much pleased with their conquerors, and trade is quite brisk. Communication with the sea coast seems only to be required to bring all right again. Generals Scott and Worth were both in Puebla when the courier passed through that city.

From the Baltimore Sun.

LATER FROM THE BRAZOS.

Later advices were received at New Orleans on the evening of the 5th instant, from the Brazos.

Col. Jack Hays was at Palo Alto, with his regiment of Texan Rangers, described to be a body of remarkably hardy men. He was waiting for orders to march to the camp of Gen. Taylor.

Col. Doniphan was at Parras.

The parting scene (says the Picayune) between the Mississippi regiment and Gen. Taylor, we are told, was affecting in the extreme. As the men marched by him to return to their homes, overpowered with a recollection of the high deeds which had endeared them to him, and with their demonstrations of respect and affection, he attempted in vain to address them. With tears streaming down his furrowed cheeks, all he could say was, "Go on, boys—go on—I can't speak."

Col. Croghan, inspector general of the army, was on the way up to join Gen. Taylor, escorted by Mustang Grey and his company of Texans.

From Anton Lizardo, Tabasco, and Alvarado.—Capt. Powers, of the schooner Portia, left Anton Lizardo on the 20th ultimo, and arrived at New Orleans on the 5th instant. The following vessels were lying at anchor when the Portia left—U. S. frigate Raritan, sloops of war John Adams, Germantown, and Decatur; U. S. revenue cutter McLane, and bomb-ketch Ætna. From the last-named vessel Capt. Powers brought up a mail bag.

The steamer McLane had just arrived from Tabasco, having left there the U. S. bomb-brig Ætna, and reports that the Mexicans, having mounted several pieces of heavy cannon at different places on the river below Tabasco, they would be defended, in case of an attack, by at least 3,000 troops. It is believed that Commodore Perry was preparing another expedition, to sail for Tabasco in four or five days.

The Portia went up the Alvarado river as far as Tlacotalpan, a fine town, containing about ten thousand inhabitants. The U. S. bomb-schooner Mahoneese was lying there to protect the inhabitants, who were in constant fear of being attacked by the rancheros, said to be about five or six hundred strong, within ten miles of the walls—who threaten to destroy not only this town, but every town and village which shall fall into the possession of the United States.

When the Portia left Alvarado, the news was confirmed of there being a party of rancheros, about five hundred strong, within three leagues of the place. It is believed, however, by our people, that there is very little danger of their attacking that place, as there are three gunboats and a steamer, which could lay the town in ashes in about ten minutes, although there is no garrison of soldiers in the place.

THE CARLISLE RIOT.

The Philadelphia Bulletin contains a publication, declared to be from a respectable source, in which it is asserted that Professor McClintock had no part whatever in the recent riotous proceedings at Carlisle, Pa. It says, in addition—

"A warrant was issued and a writ served on Professor McClintock, who will answer the accusation of instigating a riot. A writ has also been served on Justice Smith, for illegally committing the negroes to jail. Other writs, it is believed, will be served on the constables and jailor, for their part in the matter; and also upon Judge Hepburn, for illegally remanding the prisoners to the custody of Hollingsworth and Kennedy. Thus the whole question, both as to the facts and the law, is in a fair way to be discussed and settled."

From the Mobile (Alabama) Herald.

OBSOLETE ISSUES.

The truth is, we do not know how a very active party feeling could be produced just at present—seeing that (the name of Whig and Democrat aside) there is very little difference between the two parties in the South. In a national point of view, we are all opposed to the Wilmot proviso—*all, generally speaking, think the war a just one, and that it ought to be prosecuted with vigor until an honorable peace be reached. Mostly, too, the Tariff question is pretty well settled in the South.* The present law is found to work so well, that, even in the East, opposition to it has in a great measure ceased. In this section, the subject is rarely mentioned.

The same may be said of the great Bank question. It is obsolete. Thus parties, in the South especially, are beginning to unite in opinion.

DOMESTIC MARKETS.

From the New York correspondent of the Era.

New York, *June* 14.

The value of merchandise imported into this district, excepting that sent to the warehouse, for the week ending on the 11th instant, presents the following results, compared with the same period of last year:

	1846.	1847.	*Decrease*
Free merchandise	$159,332	93,534	65,798
Dutiable merchandise	1,337,151	1,102,850	234,301
Total merchandise	1,496,483	1,196,384	300,099

The amount of specie imported during the same period, compared with last year, has been as follows:

1846 - - - - - - - - - - -	$15,031
1847 - - - - - - - - - - -	193,378
Increase - - - - - - - -	178,347

The amount received for duties for the same time, compared with the previous year, was—

Cash received in 1846 - - - - - -	$453,204
Cash received in 1847 - - - - - -	279,518
Decrease - - - - - - - -	173,686

The exports from 1st to 11th were $2,804,981, of which $1,513,380, or more than one-half, was in foreign bottoms. The arrivals were 139, clearances 129, of which 148 were foreign. Number of passengers, 8,914.

Exports to Great Britain.—Flour, 82,100 barrels; meal, 11,919 barrels; cheese, 16,876 pounds; peas, 5,112 bushels; barley, 16,000 bushels; turpentine, 10,052 barrels; rosin, 7,141 barrels; pork, 544 barrels; oats, 5,195 bushels; cotton, 110 bales; corn, 218,030 bushels; wheat, 29,837 bushels; hams, 108,904 pounds; beef, 121 barrels.

Flour and meal.—The market has still an upward tendency, with a good demand, although there is less doing than yesterday, partly in consequence of lighter receipts. Yesterday the sales were about 10,000 barrels larger than we reported, having reached probably 30,000, mostly on speculation. The sales to-day are some 15,000 barrels, at $8.75 a $8 81 for Michigan, and $8.81 a $8.87 1-2 for Genesee, the market closing firm, with fair demand. A sale of 1,000 barrels round Ohio was made at $8.75, and some sales were made, to arrive next week, at $8.87 1-2; and 1,000 barrels, rather better than common, sold at $9. In Southern there is nothing doing; the quotation is nominally $9. Meal is rather dull at $5.56 a $5.62 1-2 for Western and $5.75 for Jersey. For Brandywine, $5.75 is refused. Rye flour is $7.12 1-2 a $7.25, with sales of 200 barrels in lots.

The receipts of flour down the Hudson, from the opening of river navigation to last evening, are 696,855 barrels. Export from 1st to 8th June: wheat flour, 79,283 barrels.

Grain.—For wheat there was a fair inquiry, principally for mixed, and about 15,000 bushels sold at $2. A sale of 3,000 bushels prime red Iowa was made on private terms, and 7,000 bushels inferior Illinois at $1.85. White is neglected, and the quotation is unsettled. For corn there is a continued fair demand, and the market is firm. Sales of 40,000 bushels at $1.15 a $1.16 for mixed, and $1.19 a $1.20 for yellow. White is wanted, and sales of 6,000 or 7,000 bushels were made at $1.22 a $1.27 for export. Sales of 3,500 bushels of New Orleans, to arrive, at $1. Barley is 87 a 90 cents, nominally; sales of 700 bushels at 87 cents. Rye dull, with sales of 2,500 bushels at $1.30, part to arrive on Saturday. Oats were heavy, and sales were made as low as 60 a 61 cents. A lot of 6,000 bushels, sold for export, at 61 cents. Good demand for beans and peas, and holders are firm.

Provisions.—For pork the market is firm, but not active. For prime, $14 was bid for 500 barrels. Sales of 500 barrels of mess and prime were made in lots at something over even money. For mess beef the inquiry is considerable, and 500 barrels City sold at $13 a $13.50. Of prime, 100 barrels brought $9.37. Lard in kegs is wanted. Sales of 1,000 kegs at 10 1-2 cents. A sale of 175 barrels No. 2 was made at 8 3-4 cents. Pickled meats are heavy.

Philadelphia, *June* 15.

Flour.—Dealers in flour are beginning to hold off for the next foreign news. There was a sale this morning of 700 barrels Western brands at $8.50; Pennsylvania brands are held at $8.62. Sales of corn meal at $5.37, and rye flour at $6.75.

Grain.—Nothing doing in wheat. Prime red is held at $2 per bushel. Sales of yellow corn at $1.19 a $1.20, being a slight advance—no sales of white. Oats 63 a 64 cents. Rye $1.25.

From the Baltimore Patriot.

Baltimore, *June* 15.

Flour.—Sales of about 2,500 barrels Howard street flour at $8.50, at which price there are buyers to-day, with small sales, but holders generally ask $8.62 1-2. A sale of 500 barrels Ohio at $8.50, and 700 barrels Susquehanna at $8 62 1-2. Some 1,600 barrels City Mills were taken at $8.75. Corn meal, $5.31 a $5.37 1-2, with sales since Monday of 2,000 barrels; 400 barrels Pennsylvania sold at $5.25. Rye flour, $7.25.

Grain.—Supply of all kinds of grain small. Sales on Saturday of 3,000 bushels Pennsylvania red at $1.95, and 800 at $2. A load of 1,600 bushels white sold yesterday at $2, the present price. Corn is selling at $1.12 a $1.13. Oats, 60 a 62 cents.

Beef Cattle.—There were offered at the scales on Monday 370 head of beeves, of which 236 were sold, and 134 head remain over. Prices ranged from $3 to $4.25 per 100 pounds on the hoof, equal to $6 a $8.25 net, and averaging $3.75 gross.

Hogs.—The price of live hogs has declined. We note sales to-day at $6 a $6.50.

Provisions.—But little doing in pork. Mess held at $17, and prime $14 a $15. Sales of No. 1 beef at $13 a $13.50, and prime at $10.50. We quote No. 1 at $13 a $13.50, and prime at $10 a $10 50; mess at $14 a $15. There is a good demand for bacon. Sales of shoulders at 7 3-4 a 8 cents. Prime sides at 9 3-4 a 10 cents. Sales of 20 casks of hams at 9 1-4 cents, and 10 hhds. do. at 9 cents. Sale of 200 kegs of lard at 10 1-4 cents. We quote kegs at 10 a 10 1-4 cents, and barrels at 9 1-2 cents.

PUBLISHER'S NOTICES.

☞ A few subscriptions to the National Era were received for *six months*, commencing with No. 1. These subscribers are reminded that the time for which they have paid will expire July 1.

☞ Those who intend to renew their subscriptions are requested to make their remittances to the Publisher previous to that time, as, in that case, we shall be saved the trouble of striking off and again inserting their names.

☞ We invite the attention of those who are remitting moneys to the publisher of this paper to the following table, showing the rate of discount on uncurrent money in this city. We earnestly hope that those who send money will endeavor to send such bank bills as are at the lowest discount:

Washington, D. C. - - - -	Par.	
Baltimore - - - - -	Par.	
Philadelphia - - - - -	Par.	
New York city - - - -	Par.	
New York State - - - -	3/4	per ct. dis.
New England - - - - -	1/2	do.
New Jersey - - - - -	3/4	do.
Eastern Pennsylvania - - -	3/4	do.
Western Pennsylvania - - -	1 1/2	do.
Maryland - - - - -	1/2	do
Virginia - - - - -	3/4	do.
Western Virginia - - - -	1 1/2	do.
Ohio - - - - - -	2 1/4	do.
Indiana - - - - - -	2 1/4	do.
Kentucky - - - - -	2 1/4	do.
Tennessee - - - - -	3 1/2	do.
Michigan - - - - -	3	do.
Canada - - - - - -	5	do.

THE DAILY NATIONAL WHIG is published in the city of Washington, every day, at three o'clock P. M., Sundays excepted, and served to subscribers in the City, at the Navy Yard, in Georgetown, in Alexandria, and in Baltimore, the same evening, at six and a quarter cents a week, payable to the sole agent of the Whig, G. L. Gillchrest, Esq., or his order. It is also mailed to any part of the United States for $4 per annum, or $2 for six months, payable in advance. Advertisements of ten lines or less inserted one time for 50 cents, two times for 75 cents, three times for $1, one week for $1.75, two weeks for $2 75, one month for $4, two months for $7, three months for $10, six months for $16, one year for $30, payable always in advance.

The *National Whig* is what its name indicates. It speaks the sentiments of the Whig party of the Union on every question of public policy. It advocates the election to the Presidency of Zachary Taylor, subject to the decision of a Whig National Convention. It makes war to the knife upon all the measures and acts of the Administration deemed to be adverse to the interests of the country, and exposes without fear or favor the corruptions of the party in power. Its columns are open to every man in the country, for the discussion of political or any other questions.

In addition to politics, a large space in the National Whig will be devoted to publications upon Agriculture, Mechanics, and other useful arts, Science in general, Law, Medicine, Statistics, &c. Choice specimens of American and Foreign Literature will also be given, including Reviews, &c. A weekly list of the Patents issued by the Patent Office will likewise be published—the whole forming a complete family newspaper.

The *Weekly National Whig*, one of the largest newspapers in the United States, is made up from the columns of the Daily National Whig, and is published every Saturday, for the low price of $2 per annum, payable in advance. A double sheet of eight pages will be given whenever the press of matter shall justify it.

The Memoirs of General Taylor, written expressly for the National Whig, are in course of publication. They commenced with the second number, a large number of copies of which have been printed, to supply calls for back numbers.

CHS. W. FENTON,
Proprietor of the National Whig.

P. S. All daily, weekly, and semi-weekly papers in the United States are requested to insert this advertisement once a week for six months, noting the price for publishing the same at the bottom of the advertisement, and send the paper containing it to the National Whig office, and the amount will be duly remitted. Our editorial brethren are also requested to notice the National Whig in their reading columns.

June 17.—6m C. W. F.

FOREIGN PERIODICALS.—
REPUBLICATION OF
THE LONDON QUARTERLY REVIEW,
THE EDINBURGH REVIEW,
THE NORTH BRITISH REVIEW,
THE WESTMINSTER REVIEW, and
BLACKWOOD'S EDINB'GH MAGAZINE.

The above Periodicals are reprinted in New York, immediately on their arrival by the British steamers, in a beautiful clear type, on fine white paper, and are faithful copies of the originals—*Blackwood's Magazine* being an exact fac-simile of the Edinburgh edition.

The widespread fame of these splendid Periodicals renders it needless to say much in their praise. As literary organs, they stand far in advance of any works of a similar stamp now published, while the political complexion of each is marked by a dignity, candor, and forbearance, not often found in works of a party character.

They embrace the views of the three great parties in England—Whig, Tory, and Radical. "Blackwood" and the "London Quarterly" are Tory, the "Edinburgh Review" Whig, and the "Westminster" Radical. The "North British" is of a more religious cast, being under the editorial supervision of the Rev. Dr. Chalmers, Edinburgh, and Sir David Brewster, and representing more particularly the Free Church movement in Scotland.

The prices of the *Reprints* are less than one-third of those of the foreign copies, and, while they are equally well got up, they afford all that advantage to the *American* over the *English* reader.

TERMS.

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For any three of the Reviews,	7.00	do.
For all four of the Reviews,	8.00	do.
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For Blackwood and the four Reviews	10.00	do.

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Four copies of all or any of the above works will be sent to one address, on payment of the regular subscription for three, the fourth copy being gratis.

☞ Remittances and communications must be made in all cases without expense to the publishers. The former may always be done through a postmaster, by handing him the amount to be remitted, taking his receipt, and forwarding the receipt by mail, post paid; or the money may be enclosed in a letter, postpaid, directed to the publishers.

N. B. The postage on all these Periodicals is reduced by the late post-office law to about *one-third the former rates*, making a very important saving in the expense to mail subscribers.

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LEONARD SCOTT & CO., Publishers,
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THE NATIONAL ERA.

For the National Era.

PORTRAITS FOR THE PEOPLE.

BY JOHN SMITH THE YOUNGER.

No. 12—Continued.

THE POLITICIAN IN PETTICOATS.

CHAP. IV.

Mr. Softsawder's hall was therefore pronounced by every one the finest affair of the season. The Secretary was not an ungrateful man. He felt that it was to the accomplished Mrs. Dangerfield he was indebted for the success of his grand entertainment. Her womanly tact—her general knowledge of the world—her nice sense of propriety—above all, her delicate appreciation of those peculiarities which make Washington society such an obstinate problem to all not initiated into its mysterious perplexities—had been generously exerted in the service of Mr. Softsawder, and he was not insensible of the weight of the obligation.

Still Mrs. Dangerfield had not yet succeeded in obtaining the consulate for her *protege*, Mr. Buckeye. It is true, the incident of the ball had occurred very opportunely to aid her exertions. But her adversary, Mrs. General Duff, had not been inactive, and the Secretary was not disposed to be precipitate in lending his influence in aid of any candidate for an Executive appointment. The public interest, he said, demanded great deliberation and prudence on the part of those to whom the dear, enlightened, and sovereign people had committed the destinies of this mighty Republic.

When a patriot, desirous of sacrificing himself in the service of his country, presents himself at Washington, the inquiry is not *what* recommends him, but *who?* The wisdom of this mode of investigation is obvious. An examination of the personal merits of the candidate, which would be of course incompatible with that perfect immunity which our glorious institutions secure to the humblest citizen, is thus avoided. No such inquisitorial procedure is therefore ever tolerated.

Now, following in this, as in all other cases, the prescribed course of investigation, the Secretary had asked—Who recommends Mr. Buckeye? This inquiry naturally involved another—Who is opposed to him? Here the difficulty interposed itself which had hitherto delayed the success of Mrs. Dangerfield.

The influence of Mrs. General Duff very nicely balanced that of Mrs. Dangerfield. She represented the religious influence in the city of Washington, and at the very first glance you knew her to be a lady who had full assurance of faith in her untainted evangelical principles. Her eyes were generally half closed, as if afraid of admitting too full a view of the surrounding ungodliness. But ever and anon the lids would be entirely shut, and, on being again gently re-opened, the eyes would be seen turned upwards to heaven, her hands, which were usually crossed on her lap, uniting devoutly in the supplicatory motion. A faint smile of sweet resignation played around her thin lips, and somewhat relieved the not altogether seraphic expression of a nose and chin possessing peculiar acuteness. Then Mrs. General Duff always dressed with the greatest simplicity. Her dresses were made in Quakerly style, but were fitted to her daintily delicate figure with scrupulous nicety; and, indeed, some of the ladies of "the church," on whom the form of the Venus de Medicis had not been bestowed, were so ill-natured as to hint that Sister Duff expended more time on her toilette, and laced tighter, than was consistent with the character of a strictly religious professor. But Mrs. General Duff was human, and wanted three years of forty!

Mrs. General Duff was never inactive. She was the moving spirit of half a dozen "sewing societies," and was almost continually engaged in getting up "Benevolent Ladies' Fairs," "Sacred Soirees," and "Evangelical Raffles." She also took a deep interest in politics, and had more than once, it was said, decided the election of the Congressional chaplains. Indeed, there can hardly be any doubt of the fact, that, through the influence of Mrs. General Duff, a devout doorkeeper, with eleven small children, had been retained at the Capitol for the extraordinary period of eight years—a glaring instance of disregard to the sacred principle of rotation in office, which had provoked five or six indignation mass meetings, and any quantity of cutting rebuke from the "Government organ," not to speak of forty-three denunciatory resolutions, passed unanimously at very full meetings of the Jackson Jeffersonian Democratic Republican Association of the city of Washington.

It was a very nice question, then, to decide upon the relative weight and value of the influence respectively possessed by Mrs. Dangerfield and Mrs. General Duff. There was one circumstance in favor of Mrs. Dangerfield. Her candidate had a good connection in Ohio, which was not to be overlooked in view of the next Presidential election. On the contrary, Mrs. Duff's *protege* was only a citizen of the District, and a naturalized citizen at that! How Mr. James Diaper had managed to secure the influential support of Mrs. General Duff remains till this day unexplained. It was suggested, indeed, that an epic poem of two thousand and thirty lines, composed by Mr. Diaper, in order to commemorate the laying of a new carpet in the Reverend Ebenezer Seidsticker's church, in which meritorious transaction Mrs. Duff had exercised the chief instrumentality, had commended the gentleman to her friendly regards.

It has just been stated that Mr. James Diaper was a naturalized citizen, having first seen the light near the mouth of a coal-pit in Scotland; and aware of the necessity of convincing all men that his patriotism approached as nearly as possible to the genuine combustible which burned in the bosoms of those whose souls had been fired from their birth, he had gallantly taken up arms in the service of his adopted country, as full private, with the rank of quartermaster, in the Washington Invincible Flyshooters. This splendid company numbered eighteen men, including the six officers, and had rendered most important services at the inauguration of the Presidente for the last twenty-four years, besides ushering in the Fourth of July, with the greatest punctuality, during the same period of time.

Mr. Quartermaster Diaper, of the Washington Invincible Flyshooters, unlike the majority of his countrymen, was a fat, puffy, red-faced personage, and was in fact the very *beau ideal* of an English Boniface, such as Mr. G. P. R. James is in the habit of introducing to his readers at the way-side inns in the rural districts of merry England, about eleven o'clock in the evening, when tolerably well fuddled, and his countenance in a perfect blaze of good-humored hospitality.

Every one familiar with the business of office-seeking is aware that the great majority of candidates appear to regard an established incompetency to manage their own affairs as the very highest sort of recommendation in favor of their ability to take good care of the public concerns. As Mr. Quartermaster Diaper had recently "taken the benefit of the two-third act," having been rather profuse in the distribution of his autograph amongst his friends and connections in business, he was of course eminently qualified to take charge of a consulate, although he had not the slightest objections to discharge the duties of a disbursing officer under the General Government. But Mrs. Duff, his patroness, advised him to apply for a consulate, and thus it was that he had become the rival of Buckeye in the race for Executive favor. Such, then, was the state of affairs after the ball—the Secretary still hesitating, and nicely weighing the influence of Mrs. Dangerfield against that of Mrs. General Duff. There is no knowing how long Mr. Softsawder might have debated the delicate point, had not accident suddenly changed the whole state of the question.

It was a very sultry day about the middle of June. Not a speck of cloud was to be seen, and the metal-covered dome of the Capitol glistened as if about to melt beneath the fierce rays of the burning sun. Congressmen gasped in their shirt sleeves behind the Speaker's chair, and lay strewed about in the committee-rooms like the wounded and dying after a battle; others sweltered at home in their lodgings, and shrieked aloud for "a drink." The flies fell in myriads from the trees, crisped to a cinder. Hack horses dropped dead on the pavement, and knew the lash of their taskmasters no more. The pigs rushed madly into the canal, and found everlasting relief in the treacherous depths of its bottomless mud. All the dogs had died of the hydrophobia. At intervals, there came a puff of hot air like a blast from a furnace; whilst from the streets, the sewers, the canal, and the very bowels of the earth, as it were, there ascended a heavy and sickening exhalation, as if everything was rapidly fostering into decay and putrescence!

Of course there was quite a gathering in the bar-room at Coleman's, all drinking very hard in order to get cool; but, somehow, the thermometer still obstinately persisted in rising. Amongst these philosophers was young Mr. Buckeye. He had treated the whole company to "cobblers," and was most solemnly assured, by every one present, that nothing could keep him out of the consulate. Mr. Buckeye was the eldest son of one of the earliest pioneers of Ohio. He was a fine, sturdy, good-natured youth, and was characterized chiefly by a profound veneration for his own State, and an invincible dislike of anything like hard work. As a means of relief from agricultural pursuits, which were all well enough, had it not been for the intolerable exertion which they involved, Mr. Buckeye had set up a grocery in the flourishing village of Cincinnati, but, after a few months' experience in that avocation, he made the discovery that it was by no means the thing for him, and that, in fact, he was exactly cut out for some office under the Federal Government. Accordingly, he had proceeded to Washington, and, being fortunately consigned to the care of Mrs. Dangerfield by his aunt, who was one of that lady's most intimate friends, and had herself been a great belle in Washington, before she became Mrs. Judge Jenkinson, he now stood a very fair chance of securing the object of his patriotic ambition. Besides the aforesaid introduction, Mr. Buckeye brought with him a very respectable stock of native assurance and rustic simplicity.

"Well, Mr. Buckeye, what do you think of our great men in Congress?" inquired one of the party.

"Wal," said he, "there's some pretty tall men here from our State!"

"What do you think of Webster? He's a whole team, aint he?"

"Why, he's a good sorter speaker," Buckeye quietly replied, "but, I tell you, we have a man in our place, not very much celebrated; he's a lawyer—Lawyer Beach. I tell you, neighbor, he would whip Webster—wipe him out. That's a fact!"

"We have some fine gals here?" continued the other, changing the topic, and now quite sure he had caught Mr. Buckeye.

"Oh! yes—you have—monstrous fine gals," said Buckeye, "but nothing to the gals in Ohio!"

At this moment the inspiring strain of a military band, playing "Hail Columbia," were heard echoing along the Avenue, whilst the waiters and chambermaids rushed to the doors and windows, shouting out, "Oh! here comes the Washington Invincible Flyshooters!"

Sure enough, the band did announce the approach of this celebrated military force, and in a few moments they made their appearance, preceded by a thick cloud of dust and an advance guard of fifty or sixty ragamuffins.

"Halt!" shouted the captain of this renowned band, as they arrived in front of the hotel.

The Invincible Flyshooters did eventually come to a halt, and, huddled up together like a flock of sheep in great trepidation, awaited the next word of command.

"Attention! Company into line—left wheel—march! Halt!" and again the word "halt," reechoed by the three lieutenants, ran along the line.

"Right dress!" shouted the orderly sergeant—"Front!"

"Order arms!" now shouted the captain, and the twelve muskets of the far-famed Invincibles rattled on the pavement, like a peal of distant thunder.

"Stack arms!" was the next order; and, sheathing his sword, the valiant captain then exclaimed, "Now, boys, go and take a drink!"

To the last order, Mr. Quartermaster Diaper had already, as if by intuition, rendered obedience, and he was now at the bar, engaged in discussing a "cock-tail." Bustling about, and puffing and blowing, in swaggering consciousness of the imposing display which he made in the uniform of the Invincible Flyshooters, Diaper very soon attracted the watchful notice of Buckeye. So, stepping up to the quartermaster, Buckeye lifted up the skirts of that renowned hero's coat, which his tailor had decorated with two emblematic bomb-shells and explosive fusees, and exclaimed with a sneer—

"Here's a nice fellow to lick the British!"

"I'd thank ye not to take any liberties with yer betters!" retorted the quartermaster, turning shortly around and facing his rival.

The quarrel between the two patriots, thus auspiciously commenced, rapidly progressed, and, after the exchange of a number of highly original compliments, the parties seemed to be preparing to come to the still more effective warfare of blows, when the captain of the Invincibles ordered the drummer to beat to arms, and Mr. Diaper was reluctantly obliged to take his departure. So, shaking his fist in the face of his rival, and his face quite livid with rage, the plethoric quartermaster exclaimed—

"You shall hear from me to-morrow, sir—by the blood of the Bruce, you shall hear from me!" and, with this threat, he strode out of the bar-room.

The band struck up the "Star Spangled Banner," and the Washington Invincible Flyshooters, once more enveloped in dust, resumed their march down the Avenue.

[TO BE CONCLUDED IN OUR NEXT.]

From Sharpe's Magazine.

HELEN WALKER.

It is regretted that no fuller account has been preserved of the act of high-minded, persevering courage by which Helen Walker, a simple Scotch maiden, saved her sister from a shameful and unmerited death; voluntarily encountering untold difficulties rather than speak the one word of untruth by which she might so easily have gained the same end.

An outline, all that could then be learned of her adventures, came many years after to the knowledge of a lady, who had the penetration at once to perceive how well fitted was such a history for the powers of the greatest novelist of this or any age. She wrote to the author of Waverley, at first anonymously, recounting the story, and the circumstance through which she had learnt it. Subsequently her name was made known to him as Mrs. Goldie, of Craigmure, near Dumfries.* He entered as warmly as she expected into the beauty and the merits of her history; and not long after, the world was at once benefited and delighted by perhaps the most interesting of his romances, "The Heart of Mid Lothian," of which this incident forms the groundwork. Helen Walker herself suggested the beautiful character of Jeanie Deans.

Subsequent inquiries have added little that can be depended on to the original account; but we have gratefully to acknowledge the kind and willing exertions of a lady, whose near connection with Mrs. Goldie best qualifies her for the task, to furnish us with any fresh circumstances which time might have brought to light, correcting, at the same time, the misstatements which others have fallen into, from the wish to amplify and enlarge on insufficient data.

Helen Walker was the daughter of a small farmer of Dalwhairn, in the parish of Irongray, in the county of Dumfries, where, after the death of her father, she continued to reside, supporting her widowed mother by her own unremitting labor and privations. On the death of her remaining parent, she was left with the charge of her sister Isabella, much younger than herself, and whom she educated and maintained by her own exertions. Attached to her by so many ties, it is not easy to conceive her feelings when she found this sister must be tried by the laws of her country for child-murder, and that she herself was called upon to give evidence against her. In this moment of shame and anguish she was told, by the counsel for the prisoner, that if she could declare that her sister had made any preparations, however slight, or had given her any intimation on the subject, such a statement would save her sister's life, as she was the principal witness against her. Helen's answer was: "It is impossible for me to swear to a falsehood, whatever may be the consequence; I will give my oath according to my conscience."

The trial came on, and Isabella Walker was found guilty and condemned. In removing her from the bar, she was heard to say to her sister: "O Nelly, ye have been the cause of my death!" when Helen replied—"Ye ken I bute speak the truth." In Scotland, six weeks must elapse between the sentence and the execution; and of this precious interval Helen knew how to avail herself. Whether her scheme had been long and carefully considered, or was the inspiration of a bold and vigorous mind in the moment of its greatest anguish at her sister's reproach, we cannot tell; but the very day of the condemnation she found strength for exertion and for thought. Her first step was to get a petition drawn up, stating the peculiar circumstances of her sister's case; she then borrowed a sum of money necessary for her expenses; and that same night set out on her journey, barefooted and alone, and in due time reached London in safety, having performed the whole distance from Dumfries on foot. Arrived in London, she made her way at once to John, Duke of Argyle. Without introduction or recommendation of any kind, wrapped in her tartan plaid, and carrying her petition in her hand, she succeeded in gaining an audience, and presented herself before him. She was heard afterwards to say, that by the Almighty's strength she had been enabled to meet the Duke at a most critical moment, which, if lost, would have taken away the only chance for her sister's life. There must have been a most convincing air of truth and sincerity about her, for the Duke interested himself at once in her cause, and immediately procured the pardon she petitioned for, with which Helen returned to Dumfries on foot, just in time to save her sister's life.

Isabella, or Tibby Walker, thus saved from the fate which impended over her, was eventually married by Waugh, the man who had wronged her, and lived happily for great part of a century, in or near Whitehaven, uniformly acknowledging the extraordinary affection to which she owed her preservation. It may have been previous to her marriage that the following incident happened: A gentleman who chanced to be travelling in the north of England, on coming to a small inn, was shown into the parlor by a female servant, who, after cautiously shutting the door, said: "Sir, I am Nelly Walker's sister;" thus showing her hope that the fame of her sister's heroism had reached further than her own celebrity of a far different nature; or, perhaps removed as she was from the home and the scenes of her youth, the sight of a face once familiar to her may have impelled her to seek the consolation of naming her sister to one probably acquainted with the circumstances of her history, and of that sister's share in them.

The manner in which Sir Walter Scott became acquainted with Helen Walker's history has been already alluded to. In the notes to the Abbotsford edition of his novels he acknowledges his obligations on this point to Mrs. Goldie, "an amiable and ingenious lady, whose wit and power of remarking and judging character still survive in the memory of her friends." Her communication to him was in these words:

"I had taken for summer lodgings a cottage near the old abbey of Lincluden. It had formerly been inhabited by a lady who had pleasure in embellishing cottages, which she found perhaps homely and poor enough; mine possessed many marks of taste and elegance, unusual in this species of habitation in Scotland, where a cottage is literally what its name declares. From my cottage door I had a partial view of the old abbey before mentioned; some of the highest arches were seen over and some through the trees scattered along a lane which led down to the ruin, and the strange fantastic shapes of almost all those old ashes accorded wonderfully well with the building they at once shaded and ornamented. The abbey itself, from my door, was almost on a level with the cottage; but on coming to the end of the lane it was discovered to be situated on a perpendicular bank, at the foot of which ran the clear waters of the Cluden, when they hasten to join the sweeping Nith,

'Whose distant roaring swells and fa's.'

"As my kitchen and parlor were not very far distant, I one day went in to purchase some chickens from a person I heard offering them for sale. It was a little, rather stout-looking woman, who seemed to be between seventy and eighty years of age; she was almost covered with a tartan plaid, and her cap had over it a black silk hood tied under the chin, a piece of dress still much in use among elderly women of that rank of life in Scotland; her eyes were dark, and remarkably lively and intelligent. I entered into conversation with her, and began by asking how she maintained herself, &c. She said that in winter she footed stockings; that is, knit feet to country people's stockings, which bears about the same relation to stocking knitting that cobbling does to shoemaking, and is of course both less profitable and less dignified; she likewise taught a few children to read; and in summer she 'whiles reared a wheen chickens.'

"I said I could venture to guess from her face she had never married. She laughed heartily at this, and said: 'I maun hae the queerest face that ever was seen, that ye could guess that. Now do tell me, madam, how ye came to think sae?' I told her it was from her cheerful, disengaged countenance. She said: "Mem, have ye na far mair reason to be happy than me, wi' a gude husband, and a fine family o' bairns, and plenty o' everything? For me, I am the puirest of a' puir bodies, and can hardly contrive to keep myself alive in a' the wee bit o' ways I hae tell't ye. After some more conversation, during which I was more and more pleased with the old woman's sensible conversation, and the *naivete* of her remarks, she rose to go away, when I asked her name. Her countenance suddenly clouded, and she said gravely, rather coloring, 'My name is Helen Walker; and your husband kens weel about me.'

"In the evening I related how much I had been pleased, and inquired what was extraordinary in the history of the poor woman. Mr. ——— said, 'there were perhaps few more remarkable people than Helen Walker;' and he gave the history which has already been related here."

The writer continues: "I was so strongly interested by this narrative, that I determined immediately to prosecute my acquaintance with Helen Walker; but, as I was to leave the country next day, I was obliged to defer it until my return in spring, when the first walk I took was to Helen Walker's cottage. She had died a short time before. My regret was extreme, and I endeavored to obtain some account of Helen from an old woman who inhabited the other end of her cottage. I inquired if Helen ever spoke of her past history, her journey to London, &c. 'Na,' the old woman said 'Helen was a wily body, and whene'er any o' the neebors asked anything about it, she aye turned the conversation.' In short, every answer I received only tended to increase my regret, and raised my opinion of Helen Walker, who could unite so much prudence with so much heroic virtue."

This account was enclosed in the following letter to the author of Waverley, without date or signature:

"Sir: The occurrence just related happened to me twenty-six years ago. Helen Walker lies buried in the churchyard of Irongray, about six miles from Dumfries. I once proposed that a small monument should have been erected to commemorate so remarkable a character; but now I leave it to you to perpetuate her memory in a more durable manner."

Mrs. Goldie endeavored to collect further particulars of Helen Walker, particularly concerning her journey to London; but this she found impossible, as the natural dignity of her character, and a high sense of family respectability, had made her so indissolubly connect her sister's disgrace with her own exertions, that none of her neighbors durst ever question her upon the subject. One old woman, a distant relation of Helen's, and who was living in 1820, says she worked in harvest with her, but that she never ventured to ask her about her sister's trial, or her journey to London. "Helen," she said, "was a lofty body, and used a high style o' language." The same old woman says, "that every year Helen received a cheese from her sister, who lived at Whitehaven, and that she always sent a liberal portion of it to herself or to her father's family." The old person here spoken of must have been a mere child to our heroine, who died in the year 1791, at the age of eighty-one or eighty-two; and this difference of age may well account for any reserve in speaking on such a subject, making it appear natural and proper, and not the result of any undue "loftiness" of character. All recollections of her are connected with her constant and devout reading of the Bible. A small table, with a large open Bible, invariably occupied one corner of her room, and she was constantly observed stealing a glance, reading a text or a chapter, as her avocations permitted her time; and it was her habit, when it thundered, to take her work and her Bible to the front of the cottage, alleging that the Almighty could smite in the city as well as the field.

An extract from a recent letter says, on the subject of our heroine—"I think I neglected to specify to you that Helen Walker lived in one of those cottages at the Chedar Mills, which you and your sisters so much admired; and the Mr. Walker who, as he said himself, 'laid her head in the grave,' lived in that larger two-storied house standing high on the opposite bank. He is since dead, or I might have got the particulars from him that we wanted; he was a respectable farmer."

The memorial which Mrs. Goldie wished to be raised over her grave has since been erected at the expense of Sir Walter Scott. The inscription is as follows:

This stone was erected
by the Author of Waverley,
to the memory of
HELEN WALKER,
Who died in the year of God MDCCXCI.
This humble individual
practiced in real life
the virtues
with which fiction has invested
the imaginary character of
JEANIE DEANS:
refusing the slightest departure
from veracity,
even to save the life of her sister,
she nevertheless showed her
kindness and fortitude
in rescuing her
from the severity of the law,
at the expense of personal exertions
which the time rendered as difficult
as the motive was laudable.
Respect the grave of poverty,
when combined with the love of truth
and dear affection.

Jeanie Deans is recompensed by her biographer, for the trials through which he leads her, with a full measure of earthly comfort; for few novelists dare venture to make virtue its own reward; yet the following reflection shows him to have felt how little the ordinary course of Providence is in accordance with man's natural wishes, and his expectations of a splendid temporal reward of goodness: "That a character so distinguished for her undaunted love of virtue lived and died in poverty, if not want, serves only to show us how insignificant in the sight of Heaven are our principal objects of ambition upon earth."

* Wife of Thomas Goldie, Esq., commissary of Dumfries.

From the Essex Transcript.

PRESIDENTIAL CONVENTION.

Mr. Editor: I see that the Liberty papers are discussing the subject of the Presidential Nominating Convention with some zeal. The Era has expressed itself in favor of delaying the Convention till early in the summer of 1848, while the Emancipator is for an immediate nomination. Will you permit me to say that I think the nomination had better be delayed till May of next year, at the earliest.

My reasons for this opinion are—first, we shall undoubtedly be able to get a much larger attendance of old and tried Liberty men then. You, or the Emancipator, or the Granite Freeman, or the Maine Standard, need not be informed that for the working men in the party there has been, all along, and must yet be, severe up-hill work. To make a nomination prematurely is adding to a load already sufficiently heavy. There is not in the public mind a preparation, a moving in that direction, as yet. The great body of the party will not assist as they will next year. A nomination under these circumstances would not be a fair expression of the wishes of the party.

Secondly, there are developments going on, showing up the utter rottenness of the old parties in such a light, and the South is consolidating in such a manner upon this question, that we must, in the nature of things, take large accessions from both the Whigs and the Democrats. Let us keep the door open for them. Let us wait and take counsel with them. Every man who honestly joins us should have the privilege of helping make the nomination, no less if he be an eleventh-hour man, than if he had borne the heat and burden of the day.

Thirdly, many of us have not yet made up our minds about the man. A year hence, I can tell much better who I would rather vote for than I can now. Our Western friends, many of them, feel just so. It does not seem expedient, under the circumstances, to precipitate the matter. The question is but just broached; let us have time to make up our minds.

Yours, for the good of the cause, A. L. B.

The foregoing, from one of the earliest and ablest of our Liberty friends in Essex county, is another proof that on the question of the time of holding the Convention for nominating Liberty candidates, there is by no means an entire unanimity of views, even in Massachusetts.

Since our first article on the subject, we have noticed with regret that a few of our friends in New York have made a movement for a nomination at Macedon, New York, on the 6th of June next. We were aware of a project of this kind, but hoped that the early day proposed for our General Convention would induce those concerned in it to wait the result of its action. As it has turned out otherwise, one of our reasons for an early nomination has been measurably set aside. We shall now cheerfully abide the decision of the committee who are intrusted with the duty of calling the Convention, resolved to do our part in the struggle to which it will be the prelude, in a spirit of conciliation and unity so far as our brethren are concerned, and with a determination that the sin and shame of electing slaveholders and fighters for slavery as the rulers of this Republic shall in no sense lie at our door.

For the National Era.

SLAVERY vs. CHRISTIANITY.

BY A MARYLANDER.

Mr. Editor: At the present advanced age of civilization and religious knowledge, it is surpassingly strange that an evil of so frightful a nature as slavery is should be advocated by professed Christians, supported by an intelligent community, and protected by the very laws of the land. That slavery is an evil, a great and growing evil, is evident; it bears like a mighty incubus upon the energies of our people, and threatens consequences the most serious to the future peace and harmony of society, and the welfare of our common country. Yet notwithstanding all this, nor regarding the voice of humanity, which has been thundering its deafening peals in his ears, the tyrannizing slaveholder grasps the shackles of slavery still more firmly, and revels in the sweets of liberty, with the broad banner of freedom floating proudly above him, bearing upon its waving folds the glorious motto—"*All men are born* FREE AND EQUAL!" These words stand prominent in the declaration of our rights, and are equal in importance to the place they occupy; for God has created all men free—free as the air we breathe. It is a privilege to which all are entitled, from the poorest of the sons of Africa to the greatest potentate on earth. But whatever may be urged by the basely interested in palliation or justification of the system of slavery, it still stands, as it ever will, diametrically opposed to the Christian religion. Notwithstanding the Bible enjoins strict obedience and faithfulness on the part of servants to their masters, yet it nowhere justifies the slaveholder in keeping in bondage his fellow man; neither does it exonerate him, in any shape or form, from the future consequences of this traffic. There is something so revolting to a feeling mind, something so inhuman in it, that it is not a little singular that any man making any pretensions to a religion which breathes nothing but mercy, peace, and good will to his fellow man, can engage in riveting the shackles of oppression upon those whom his religion (if he acted out its leading ~~principles) would induce him to protect. Here~~ we find the professed Christian, who is forever talking about the wants of the poor heathen, instead of dispensing the sovereign balm of life to those in his own land, making laws to shut up from them all the channels of information—thus excluding them from all knowledge of the Bible, and from any participation in the enjoyments of religion. Yet these men are called Christians and philanthropists. They love the cause of humanity, of religion, of civilization, and show that love by keeping the minds of the African enshrouded in perpetual ignorance. This is one of the greatest evils attendant upon the system of slavery; and so long as slavery itself exists, so long will this evil prevail; because a community of slaves can only be kept in subjection by keeping them in ignorance. As the mind becomes cultivated and improved, the principle of liberty expands until it becomes almost uncontrollable; the intensity of this feeling becomes greater and greater, until at last death is sought in preference to a state of slavery.

The simple maxim of our Saviour, "Do unto others as you wish them to do to you," aims a death-blow at all the systems of oppressions and extortions in the land. And until the Christian can show conclusive evidence that he treats his slaves as he would wish to be treated by them, in case they had the power, let him never so abuse the principles of religion as to make them subserve the base purpose of justifying him in his crimes. But why descend to particular instances, to prove that slavery rises in perfect opposition to the spirit of true Christianity? Its whole tenor is precisely the reverse. The beautiful system of Christianity is founded on the principle of universal benevolence. How, then, can it be made to sanction this worst species of cruelty and oppression? But it is so. Men making high pretensions to holiness of character, and who give away thousands to build and decorate palaces to the worship of God, who pride themselves upon their costly churches and eloquent ministers—these men, I say, accumulate their wealth from the unpaid labors of the African slave.

But, in my opinion, a brighter day is beginning to dawn, when the evils of slavery, at least to some extent, shall cease to have existence. A new *era* has commenced, which promises much for the peace and happiness of our country. Let philanthropists toil on, then this mighty work of benevolence must succeed. J. H. C.

Uniontown, Maryland.

From the New York Herald.

PRESBYTERIAN CONVENTION.

Proceedings of a Convention called to form an Anti-Slavery Presbyterian Church.

Thursday, *May* 27, 1847—9 *P. M.*

Rev. John Rankin was called to the chair.

The opening exercises of prayer and singing were followed by a sermon by the chairman.

He remarked, as a prelude to his discussion of the text, that lest it might be supposed that he was acting from prejudice of education, he would state that he was born in a slaveholding State, was educated as a slaveholder, was baptized by a slaveholding minister, and licensed by a slaveholding Presbytery. He had formed anti-slavery societies in Kentucky, and had talked abolitionism there. So that he was acting from no prejudiced education—from no sectional antipathy.

He then took his text from Revelations 18, 4–5. "And I heard another voice from Heaven, saying, 'Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues; for her sins have reached unto Heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.'"

He did not mean to say by this that the Presbyterian church was guilty, as was the body of whom this was spoken, but he selected this text to show that there were commands of God which called on his people to come out from certain churches. It represented children of God as being, by some reasons, members of a corrupt church; as being among those who were incurably erroneous; and it called upon them to come out from such a connection. He then went on to give a clear exposition of the principles, in accordance with which it was at times necessary to withdraw from churches, and from any of the organizations.

He showed that the Presbyterian church of the United States associated with those who were guilty of sins; that, as an organization, they refused to act against those who were in the practice of sin; that, by continuation in the body, there would be a necessity of meeting in common with those who held slaves; and that it was *so* corrupt, so much in error, that the command of God applied to this case with peculiar force.

He showed that the course of the General Assembly of the Presbytery in regard to slavery had been bad from the beginning, and was growing worse continually, showing that the common argument of staying in the church, to reform it, was unsound. The continued influence of a great body would, like the water-drip on the rock, at last wear away the fresh and free spirit of him who subjected himself to its influence; and he might strive and toil, and cry aloud and spare not, the adverse influence of evil would be too strong, and the chances were that he would become silent and cold before the organization would become pure and holy. He drew a vivid picture of slavery, as an institution, to show that it could not be tolerated without incurring guilt, and concluded by saying that, because the Presbyterian church tolerated these things, because its course was evil, and only evil, continually, therefore it had been determined by a few of those who would not that this sin should rest on their heads, to set up a new church, which would not be a partaker of this guilt.

The Rev. Mr. Rankin was then chosen president of the Convention, and Rev. Mr. Hills, secretary.

Rev. Mr. Gilmer offered the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Confession of Faith and Catechism of the Presbyterian church, in the United States of America, be adopted as the bond of union of this body.

Resolved, That where the name of the Presbyterian church, in the United States of America, occur, the words "*in the United States*" be stricken out, so that it shall read, "the Presbyterian church of America."

Resolved, That the form of government and book of discipline, as amended and ratified by the General Assembly of 1821, and further amended in 1840, construed in strict accordance with the overture sent down to the Presbyteries of the Assembly of 1839, and agreed to by them, be adopted.

Whereas, in this country, the sin of slaveholding prevails to an alarming extent, perniciously influencing all the action of the church, either immediately or remotely connected with human rights, it is therefore deemed necessary, in adopting a form of government, to make a distinct declaration on that subject: therefore,

Resolved, That the following declaration of human rights be prefixed to the form of government of this body:

DECLARATION.

I. God has made of one blood all nations of men; consequently, all human beings endowed with rationality have an equal right to freedom.

II. The holding of human beings as property is destructive of all the ends for which man was created and endowed with rational powers, and, consequently, one of the greatest evils that can be inflicted upon human nature, highly immoral, entirely inconsistent with Christian character and profession.

III. No person holding slaves, or advocating the rightfulness of slaveholding, can be a member of this body.

IV. That no Church, Presbytery, nor Synod, tolerating slaveholders or the advocates of slaveholding in its communion, can be a constituent part of this body.

Adopted.

Rev. Mr. Gilmer offered, also, the following resolution:

Resolved, That the following article be added to the form of government, to be enforced so long as shall be necessary to complete a general organization:

Any Synod, Presbytery, or Church, by adopting the Confession of Faith and this Form of Government, shall be a constituent part of the Presbyterian Church of America.

Any three regularly ordained ministers, in good and regular standing, may constitute themselves into a Presbytery, by adopting this Constitution, and so become a part of this church.

Any three Presbyteries, or more, may constitute themselves into a Synod.

The Presbyteries, when they shall have increased to the number of fourteen, *may* constitute a General Assembly.

On motion of Rev. Mr. Gilmer, a committee was appointed to prepare a manifesto for the public.

Rev D. Gilmer, Rev. W. G. Kephart, and Rev. J. Rankin, were appointed the committee.

The Convention then dissolved.

For the National Era.

THE NOVICE OF ST. MARY'S.

From "The Monastery" of Sir Walter Scott.

BY MISS ALICE CAREY.

Dark in the shade of the mountains,
From a valley full of flowers,
Rose up, in the light of the setting sun,
St. Mary's chapel towers.

The bell of the old grey turret
Was tolling deep and slow,
And friars were telling their beads, and monks
Chanting their hymns below.

But the breath of the silver censers,
As they swung in the twilight dim,
And the sacred hush as the beads were told,
And the chant of the solemn hymn;

And the golden light of the sunset
~~Might have to the heart no joy,~~
Of one whose mantle of coarsest serge
Betoken'd a novice boy!

Pale was his brow, and dreamy,
And his bright locks yet unshorn—
He had but given his mother's smile
For the convent's gloom that morn.

O, why are his pale hands folded
In the chill of the cloister's gloom?
Why loses his cheek its roundness,
And his lip its rosy bloom?

Let Mary of Avenel answer,
As she sits in the twilight dim,
In the leafy shade of her garden bower—
Does she wait for the convent hymn?

No; her young heart softly trembles
From its even pulse of joy,
As she hears a step, but 'tis not the step
Of St. Mary's Novice Boy!

THE ROMANCE OF REALITY.

The following affecting narrative is translated from a French paper:

E. Emile de Girardin has put us in possession of the following narrative. It is correct in every respect, and is certainly more romantic than all the fictions of the dramatists. I give it in his words:

About a year ago, said he, M. Beligne was married to one of my cousins, and enjoyed with her that complete happiness which does not excite envy, because we believe it to be within the reach of us all; when a cruel malady came to interrupt this happiness, which would be more common, perhaps, if it were not supposed to be so easily acquired. The physicians called this malady *kepato anteritis*. My young cousin being ill, was kept in her bed, carefully guarded by her mother, who endeavored to deceive her with regard to the health of her husband. At length, when she had been thus watched over three days, her anxious tenderness became excited, she threw herself from her bed, and rushed into his chamber. It was deserted. Four days before, her husband had died, and she did not know it. Her grief lent her strength. Grief has two stages—apathy and despair. Which is the least painful to endure? Half dressed, her clothes in disorder, no longer conscious of her situation, Madame Beligne rushed through the borough. Her friends saw her pass; she walked with a steady step. They were astonished. She sought the cause of those strange proceedings.

She reached the spot. The hammers of two workmen were falling upon the grave stones which they were carving, near a tomb, the fresh-turned-up earth of which still rose above the other graves. The name of Clemence, which she bore, was already engraved upon the stone. Below the inscription was recorded the good qualities of the Baron of Beligne, *Marechal des Camps a l'Armees, de l'Ordre de Saint Louis, &c.* With precipitate gestures, she motioned them away. They stared at her without understanding her. She no longer retained her senses; but her bare throat, which was violently agitated, the writhings of her delicate arms, attested the extreme degree of suffering. Life was receding before the extremity of her torture. The exhaustion was followed by a frightful delirium. Sleep had closed her eyes for a single moment. All at once, she aroused herself, crying out—"No; he cannot have died without my being near him! He is not dead, I shall see him again." This thought became fixed to her brain. She pressed her hand upon her forehead, her look became animated, and she attempted to arise. Her mother, on her knees, sought in vain to appease her.

They were compelled to follow her. She announces her purpose; they charge her with insanity; but what matters it to her! She rejects their pretexts; she is conducted by an inspiration; her resolution cannot be shaken. "My poor daughter is mad!" exclaimed the mother, who wept in despair.

Clemence threw a mantle over her shoulders and set out. Her mother, unable to retain her, accompanied her. Two domestics followed them. It was not yet four, by the clock of the Manse. They had already opened the shutters of all the dwellings. The day laborers were setting out their wallets and tools; for, in summer, in haying time, the laborers of the field commence early, and these things transpired in the month of July. The gravelled earth which covered the coffin of M. de Beligne was light and easily removed. Clemence assisted with all her strength, and the coffin is soon uncovered. Dreadful spectacle! She threw herself upon the corpse, which she covered with her tears and kisses.

She raised him and pressed him to her bosom, and her terrified mother could not drag her away. They ran to call the worthy curate of Monroelais. Perhaps Clemence would listen to his voice and his pious exhortations. All through the borough the rumor spread that Madame de Beligne was mad, and sought to be buried alive with her husband. Women and children began to collect. The cry of "Oh my God!" is heard. All approach. Madame de Beligne had fallen back, fainting. They tried to disengage her from the corpse—it was not dead! it breathed! and yet, four days had it been interred. They were terrified; some of them pressing round, others dispersing, crying "A miracle!" The dying Clemence is forgotten. The cure comes. It is necessary to remove the crowd, whose impiety is yet no proof against their superstition. Clemence is taken to the Manse.

There is no longer room for any doubt. M. de Beligne is not dead. His corpse is restored; his whole body is found to move. They wrap him up. Two hours are spent in bestowing upon him their cares. At length he comes out entirely from the horrible lethargy which had continued his existence in the dark grave. He, in his turn, now demands his wife. She had ceased to live! Death had let one prey escape him, only to seize upon another. She was indeed dead! Poor Clemence! So young and so lovely! So artless, and so overflowing with goodness.

Another might, perhaps, describe these sad scenes better than I have done; but no words can picture the despair of M. Beligne. Grief restored him all his faculties.

PIERPONT ON CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

The following article is from the fertile and versatile pen of the Rev. Mr. Pierpont, of Boston:

The sins which we commit against the brute creatures of God, when we subject them to unnecessary suffering, are sins against God, their Creator. Shall we believe, according to the declaration of his holy word, that a righteous *man* regardeth the life of his beast, and not believe that a righteous *God* will regard it? He heareth the ravens cry; and shall he not hear, and will he not avenge the wrongs that his nobler animals suffer—wrongs that cry out against man from youth to age, in the city and in the field, by the way and by the fire side? Look out into the street. See that cartman! What has thrown him into such a passion? The street echoes with the crack of his whip. His horse, stung almost to madness, springs forward to clear himself from his confinement—to disengage himself from his cruel thraldom. He is met by a blow with the loaded end of the driver's whip!

Whence comes this dreadful struggle between that manly spirit of a brute, and that brutal spirit of a man? Whence comes it? The man has loaded the horse beyond his strength. Every ounce of the generous creature's weight has been thrown forward again and again, but in vain; and now comes the reproach, and now the lash, and the curse, and the staggering blow.

Righteous God! who gavest that noble animal his strength and his spirit, is that monster that is thus beating him a man—the man whom thou madest him to serve? God of battles! who hast kindled the horse's glorious eye, hast "clothed his neck with thunder," and hast made him to mock at fear, and to turn not away from the sword, that he might help man to maintain his rights, and defend a righteous cause—is it to such a creature as this that thou hast made him to be in subjection?

But perhaps the man in form is no longer a man. He has thrown away the only thing that had raised him above the brute. He has drowned his reason in a cup. He is drunk, and his generous horse must suffer! How much nobler is the brute that is beaten, than the brute that beats him!

"Stop, degraded wretch! you shall not thus abuse your horse!" But hark! he replies, "It is my horse; and have I not a right to do what I will with my own?" I answer, "It may be your horse; but he is yours for use, not for abuse." I answer again, "You have not a *right* to do a *wrong* either with what *is* your own, or with what is not. The Maker of this horse is your Maker also, and your Judge. He sees the suffering which you inflict upon the faithful and defenceless subject of your power; and although he has sealed up the dumb creature's lips, so that he cannot plead for himself against you, yet what he meekly and patiently suffers from your cruelty will plead for him, and, if more mercy is not shown to you than you show to your beast, it will bring down upon you the righteous judgments of the Lord."

FREE PRODUCE STORE, Wholesale and Retail, *north-west corner of Fifth and Cherry streets, Philadelphia,* (late Joel Fisher's.) The subscriber, having procured a new stock of Dry Goods and Groceries, in addition to that purchased of Joel Fisher, all of which may be relied on as the product of *Free Labor*, now offers them for sale at the above place. He respectfully invites the patronage of those who give a preference to such goods, and of his friends and the public generally. Being the wholesale and retail agent of the Free Produce Association of Friends, and the retail agent of the American Free Produce Association, for the sale of the cotton goods manufactured by those associations, he will be prepared to furnish a greater variety of Dry Goods than has heretofore been offered at this establishment.
March 4.—1m GEORGE W. TAYLOR.

THE *Proprietors of the Gay street Chair Ware Rooms* would inform their friends and the public generally, that they have now on hand a very splendid assortment of Parlor and other Chairs, comprising mahogany, maple, walnut, and a variety of imitation wood colors. They would request persons disposed to purchase to give them a call, as their assortment is not surpassed, if equalled, by any establishment in the city. They would also inform shipping merchants, that they have also on hand Shipping Chairs of all kinds; also, Bronze, Split Cane, Cane Seats, Tops, Chair Stuff, &c.; all which they are willing to sell on most accommodating terms.
Baltimore, April 22. A. & J. B. MATHIOT.

WORTHINGTON G. SNETHEN, (late Solicitor of the General Land Office,) *Attorney and Counsellor at Law,* Washington, D. C., practices in the Supreme Court of the United States, and in the courts of Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia; and acts as Agent for persons having business with Congress, the War, Treasury, Navy, and General Post Office Departments, the General Land Office, Pension Office, Office of Indian Affairs, Patent Office, &c.
Feb. 11.—4t

WINONA AND THE FANATIC.—These interesting and thrilling tales, by a citizen of the South, illustrative of the influence of slavery on Southern society, can be procured of James Alcorn, at the Liberty Rooms, No. 46 North Fifth street, Philadelphia; of Edward Harwood, Cincinnati; and at the Anti-Slavery Depositories in Boston, New York, Albany, and Utica. Winona, 12 1-2 cents; the Fanatic, 10 cents. Liberal discounts to wholesale buyers.
April 29.—tf

REMOVAL.—The Rooms of the American and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society and the American Missionary Association, with the Depository for the sale of Anti-Slavery Publications, the Reading Room, and Agency for the National Era, have been removed from No. 5 to No. 22 Spruce street, New York, where all persons having business with either of the Societies, or otherwise interested in the cause, are respectfully invited to call. Letters on business, designed for the office, should be directed as above.
WILLIAM HARNED,
New York, May 17, 1847. Office Agent.

NEW MILLINERY.—Miss Morley will this day open an extensive assortment of Millinery Goods of the latest style, among which are—shirred crape bonnets, Rutland and pedal braid bonnets, China pearl and fine English straws, gimps and lace Neapolitans, Veronica bonnets, (a new article,) Buena Vista and Coburg straws, French lace straws, (very superior,) children's bonnets of every description, French lawns and drawn silk bonnets; China pearl, gimp, Florence braid, and Leghorn flats. Also, ribands, caps, and flowers, wreaths for the May balls, roses, and japonicas.
Straw and Neapolitan bonnets repaired in a superior manner.
Penn. avenue, near Ninth street. May 13.—tf

CROTON HOTEL.—On strict Temperance principles, No. 142 and 144 Broadway, New York; by
May 6.—tf J. LELAND MOORE.

DR. H. STARR'S Office, Liberty street, second door north of Fayette street, west side, Baltimore. April 29.

THOMAS BUTLER, *Boot and Shoe Maker*, may still be found at his old stand, No. 225 Pratt street, Baltimore, prepared to manufacture the cheapest and best work, for ladies or gentlemen. April 29.

J. HALL, *No. 8 Eutaw street, opposite the Eutaw House, Baltimore*, is prepared to make Wood Cuts, Brands, Dies, Seals, Letters, &c. Drawings executed. April 29.

MAULDEN PERINE'S *Earthenware Pottery, corner of Pine and Lexington streets, Baltimore.* All wares delivered in any part of the city, free of cartage. April 29.

NO. 37 CHEAPSIDE.—J. D. Armstrong & Thornton, *Tobacco and Cigar Warehouse.* Tobacco in large and small packages; Cigars in packages of 50, 100, 125, and 250.
April 29.—tf

BEERS'S TEMPERANCE HOTEL, *Third street, north of Pennsylvania avenue, and near the Railroad Depot, Washington City.* Prices to suit the times. April 29.—tf

SILVER WARE, of every description and style, manufactured by A. E. Warner, *No. 5 North Gay street, Baltimore.* April 29.

CHARLES PHILLIPS, *Bellhanger, Locksmith, and Smith in General*, may be found at the old stand, No. 113 Front street, opposite the Stone Tavern, Baltimore. Bells put up in the country at the shortest notice, and on the most approved plan. April 29.—tf

RICHARD MASON, *Fashionable Boot and Shoe Maker*, has permanently located his establishment in the Washington Hall Building, No. 5 South Front street, near Baltimore street, where he is prepared to serve old or new customers, on the most favorable terms, and with despatch.
April 29.

GREAT BED AND MATTRESS DEPOT, 35 *South Calvert street.*—On hand, and made to order, every known size and shape of Feather Beds, Bolsters, and Pillows, in any quantity, and of such quality as has won for the subscriber the justly merited name of keeping the best, sweetest, and cheapest feather beds in all Baltimore. Also on hand, and made to order, all sizes of Hair, Moss, Husk, Wool, Cotton, and Straw Mattresses and Palliasses. In store, a large assortment of newest patterns Paper Hangings, suitable for parlors, halls, dining rooms, chambers, &c. Paper Hanging done at a moment's notice. Upholstering done in all its branches.
N. B. Prices low, terms cash, and one price asked.
April 29.—tf W. P. SPENCER.

A LOT OF GUNS, *the largest and best selected in the market.*—Among them are a large number of Chance & Son's make, so celebrated for strong and correct shooting. They can be stripped and examined, and, after a fair trial, should they not prove to be as represented, they can be exchanged. A great variety of everything appertaining to the business. Blunt & Sims's celebrated *six-shooters*, at reduced prices, together with a large assortment of Pistols, of various patterns. Rifles made to order at the shortest notice, and sold low for cash.
JAS. H. MERRILL, *Practical Gun Maker,*
April 29.—tf 65 *South street, one door north of Pratt.*

JOHN JOLLIFFE, *Attorney and Counsellor at Law.* Office on the east side of Main, between Third and Fourth streets, Cincinnati, Ohio. Collections carefully attended to.
Refer to Thomas H. Minor, Dr. Dr. G. Bailey, Neff & Brother; T. Kirby, Esq., Blachly & Simpson, C. Donaldson & Co., Cincinnati; Hon. J. W. Price, Hon. J. J. McDowell, Hillsborough, Ohio; A. W. Fagin, St. Louis; J. J. Coombs, Gallipolis; N. Barrier, Esq., West Union, Ohio; Dr. A. Brower, Lawrenceburg, Indiana; S. Galloway, Columbus, Ohio; Col. J. Taylor, Newport, Kentucky; Gen. R. Collins, Maysville, Kentucky.
Jan. 7.

WILLIAM BIRNEY, Cincinnati, Ohio, *Attorney at Law, and Commissioner to take Depositions and Acknowledgments of Deeds for the States of Vermont and Connecticut*, offers his services for the collection of claims in the Federal and State courts of Ohio, and in the courts of Hamilton county. Office on Eighth street, two doors west of Main, opposite the Methodist Bookconcern. Jan. 7.

CHARLES B. PURNELL, *Draper and Tailor, southeast corner of German and Liberty streets, Baltimore*, keeps constantly on hand a complete assortment of Cloths, Cassimeres, and Vestings, which he will make up in the latest style and on the most reasonable terms. Strict attention will be paid to the style of the work intrusted to him.
April 29.—6t

CENTRAL AGENCY *for the sale of Anti-Slavery Publications, No. 22 Spruce street, New York.*—The subscriber, as Agent of the Executive Committee of the American and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, would inform the friends of the cause that he has made arrangements with the publishers of standard works on American Slavery, whereby he will be enabled to keep on hand, for sale at wholesale and retail, a full supply of the Anti-Slavery literature of this country. There can be no doubt, that if the Truth, as it has been set forth by the advocates of emancipation, can be brought before the minds of our fellow-citizens, the most satisfactory results will be produced; and it is earnestly hoped that the facilities afforded by the establishment of this new Anti-Slavery Depository will be suitably appreciated and improved.
It is not deemed best to comprise in this advertisement a complete catalogue of the Books, Pamphlets, Tracts, Engravings, &c., now on hand. Such a list will probably be prepared and extensively circulated in the Spring. It may, however, be well to say, that among a large assortment of Publications may be found the following:
Memoir of Rev. Charles T. Torrey; Voices of Freedom, by Whittier, last edition; Liberty Minstrel, by G. W. Clark, last edition; Barnes on American Slavery; Bacon on American Slavery; Discussion between Rice and Blanchard; Home, written in prison, by C. T. Torrey; Unconstitutionality of Slavery, by Spooner; Narratives of Lewis and Milton Clarke; Reproof of the American Church; Condensed Bible Argument, by a Virginian; Alvan Stewart's Argument; Winona, the Brown Maid of the South; the American Board and Slaveholding, by Rev. W. W. Patton; German Anti-Slavery Almanac for 1847; Liberty Almanacs and Tracts, by the thousand, hundred, dozen, or single copy, &c.
It is confidently hoped that no friend of Human Rights, on a visit to New York, will think of leaving the city without supplying himself with a quantity of our Publications. Orders from all parts of the country, enclosing the cash, and specifying how the parcel may be sent, will be promptly attended to, by WILLIAM HARNED,
Jan. 7. Publishing Agent, No. 5, Spruce street.

BALTIMORE DEPOSITORY *for the agency and sale of rare and cheap Publications, No. 10 North street, Baltimore.*—At this establishment, a variety of rare and cheap Books are for sale, among which are the following:
Fowler's Works—embracing his Phrenology, Hereditary Descent, Love and Parentage, Matrimony, Phrenological Guide, Animal and Mental Physiology, Mrs. Fowler's Phrenology for Children and Schools, Physiology do., Spurzheim on Education, Fowler on the Improvement of Memory, Phrenological Journal, Phrenological Almanac, &c.
Combe's Works—embracing his Constitution of Man, Elements of Phrenology, Physiology, Digestion and Diet, &c.
Dr. Alcott's Works—embracing his Teacher of Health, Library of Health, Young Wife, Young Husband, Young Housekeeper, Young Woman's Guide, Young Mother, the Use of Tobacco, &c.
Dr. Graham's Works—his Lectures on Human Life, Lectures to Young Men, &c.
Theodore Parker's Works—his Discourses on Religion, his Miscellaneous Writings, his Sermons, &c.
Also—Burleigh on the Death Penalty; Spear, do.; Sumner's Peace Oration; Jackson on Peace; Dods's Lectures on Mesmerism; Hurlbut's Human Rights; Spooner's Unconstitutionality of Slavery; Anti-Slavery Bible Argument; Slavery Consistent with Christianity; Emancipation in the West Indies; the Bustle, a Poem; Wiley & Putnam's desirable series of home and foreign Books; Lea's Cookery; various works on the Water Cure; do. on the new science of Phonography; Lowell's and Longfellow's Poems; Tricks of Satan; Illustrated Magazines, &c.
The National Era, Saturday Courier, Saturday Post, Neal's Gazette, New York Emporium, Boston Pilot, &c., at Publishers' prices.
Many of the above books are issued in forms adapted to the mails—thus rendering them obtainable by purchasers at a distance, at a small additional cost for postage. April 22.

TO THE LADIES.—Thomas H. Stanford, *southeast corner of Saratoga and Green streets, Baltimore*, keeps constantly on hand, and makes to order, the most fashionable Ladies, Misses, and Children's Shoes, of every description and material, and of the best quality, at the following low charges, reduced from his former prices. He sells nothing but his own make; consequently, he is prepared to warrant what he sells to be good.
Thick Soles.—Gaiters, $2 to $2 25; Half Gaiters, $1.50 to $1.75; F. Boots, $1.25; Jefferson's and Ties, $1.12 1 2.
Thin Soles.—Tip and Ties, 70 cents to $1, White Satin, $1.37; Black Satin, $1.25; Clasb, $1.
Misses and Children's in proportion. Satin Shoes made for $1, when the ladies furnish the satin. April 22.

WINDOW SHADES.—George Fayaux has removed his Painting Rooms to the southeast corner of South and Baltimore streets, Baltimore, where he will continue to receive orders for painting the fashionable *Transparent Window Shades*, which have had so much preference to any other Blind since their introduction into this country from Europe. In addition to the Window Shades, he will also continue the Decoration of Stores and Halls. Signs lettered, Banners and Flags for Military and Fire Companies, &c. He respectfully solicits a share of patronage from those who may be desirous of obtaining any article in his line. We have a stock of Window Shades, of the latest style, from $1 to $25 per pair. April 22.

WILLIAM B. JARVIS, Jun., *Attorney and Counsellor at Law*, Columbus, Ohio. Office two doors north of American Hotel.
Business connected with the profession, of all kinds, punctually attended to. Jan. 28.

SPENCER & NORTH, *Attorneys and Counsellors at Law*, Syracuse, New York.
Office, Standard Buildings. ISRAEL S. SPENCER.
Jan. 28.—tf JOHN W. NORTH.

W. H. PETTIT, Attorney and Counsellor at Law, and Solicitor and Counsellor in Chancery, and General Land Agent, Milwaukie, Wisconsin.
☞ All professional business promptly attended to.
Feb. 4.—6t*

MORRIS HOUSE, *Temperance Hotel, 188 Chestnut st., south side, between Seventh and Eighth streets, Philadelphia.* This establishment offers accommodations for Ladies and Gentlemen who are friends of the cause of Temperance, and like to feel the same quiet when abroad as at home. Travellers accommodated for a single night, and breakfast in time for the morning lines, at moderate charges. Transient board at $1.25 per day. Warm and cold baths in the house.
☞ Sons of Temperance can obtain all the information they may require, at the Morris House, respecting the meeting of the Divisions in Philadelphia.
March 11.—2m T. FLETCHER, Proprietor.

J. HALL, *Designer and Engraver, No. 8 Eutaw street, opposite the Eutaw House, Baltimore.*—Drawings of Buildings, Machinery, Specifications for the Patent Office, &c. Seals, Steel Letters, and all kinds of Wood and Copperplate Engraving, executed at the shortest notice. Patterns for Castings made. Brands and Stencils cut to order.
Drawing School.—Instruction given in the art of Drawing. April 22.

DR. JOHN ROSE, *Botanic Physician, and Practitioner of Electro-Magnetism*, may be found at his office, 227 West Pratt street, Baltimore, until 9 A. M., and between 12 and 2 and after 5 P. M., unless professionally engaged.
April 22.

ROBERT JOHNSTON, *Draper and Tailor, Fayette st., first door east of Howard street, Baltimore*, respectfully informs his friends and the public that he has on hand a select assortment of Cloths, Cassimeres, and Vestings, which he will make up to order in a superior manner, and on the most reasonable terms. Making and trimming done in the best style for those who prefer finding their own cloth. All work done at this establishment warranted to give satisfaction. April 22—1y

THE LIBERTY ALMANAC FOR 1847 is a pamphlet of 48 closely printed pages, prepared with great care by a master hand, and illustrated by several engravings, designed and executed expressly for this work. In order to give the widest possible circulation to this valuable Anti-Slavery document, the wholesale price has been reduced to the following rates: 250 copies, or upwards, at $30 per thousand; 100 or 200 copies, at $3.50 per hundred; 50 copies for $2; 25 copies for $1, &c.
All orders must enclose the cash, and should designate the conveyance by which they are to be forwarded.
Also for sale, Rademacher's German Liberty Almanac for 1847; with a large variety of Anti-Slavery Books, Tracts, Engravings, &c., at the Depository of the American and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, No. 5 Spruce street, by
Jan. 7. WILLIAM HARNED.

MEDARIS, McKEE, & MARTIN, manufacture and keep constantly on hand, at their shop on Seventh street, three doors west of Main street, and at Bailey, Boyer, & Arnold's, Nos. 14 and 16 East Columbia street, Cincinnati, Ohio, a large and general assortment of all kinds of SCALES. Their Platform Scales are made from entire new patterns, upon their late Improvements, some of which have never before been offered to the public, which are so constructed as to render it utterly impossible for the works to get out of order—they having made greater improvements on Scales than any other manufacturers in the United States. It is only necessary for those wanting a good article to call and examine their stock, to insure a very liberal patronage. Terms very reasonable, and satisfaction warranted.
REFERENCES.
Cincinnati.—Shreeve, Steele, & Co.; Gaylord, Morrell, & Co.; G. & J. H. Shoenberger; Thomas H. Minor & Co.; C. Donaldson & Co.
Louisville, Kentucky.—Clifton, Norton, & Co.; Hewett, Anderson, & Co.; Snead & Gardner.
New Orleans.—Hewett, Heran, & Co.; Thomas B. Winston. Jan. 21.

BIRNEY, WINANS, & CO., importers and wholesale dealers in Drugs and Chemicals, manufacturers of Patent Ætna Matches, Chrome Green, Chrome Yellow, Prussian Blue, Fancy Soaps, Perfumery; Blue, Black, and Record Inks; dealers in Fancy Notions, importers of Cigars, &c.
Warehouse and Depot at the southeast corner of Lower Market and Sycamore streets, Cincinnati, Ohio.
D. BIRNEY.
N. T. WINANS.
April 8. DAVID B. BIRNEY.

BIGELOW & PEUGH, General Agents for the recovery of Claims before Congress and the Executive Departments; also, for procuring Patents for new inventions.
Office, corner of E and Seventh streets, Washington, D. C.
Jan. 7.

TYPE AND PRINTERS' MATERIALS.—The subscriber has taken the Type Foundry lately occupied by Messrs. Cockcroft & Overend, No. 59 Gold street, in the city of New York, and will attend to all orders he may receive with punctuality and despatch. All the type manufactured by the subscriber will be *hand cast*, and of good metal and finish; and he will furnish all kinds of Printers' Materials of the best quality, at the usual prices.
Mr. J. A. T. Overend (late of the firm of Cockcroft & Overend) has been employed to superintend the manufacturing department for the subscriber.
Old type will be received in payment on the usual terms.
Jan. 7. ROBERT TAYLOR.

FINKBINE & KIRMAN'S *new Leather and Finding Store, No. 239 Main street, west side, second door below the Galt House, Cincinnati.* F. & K. have, in connection with their Boot and Shoe Manufactory, opened and intend to keep constantly on hand a good assortment of Philadelphia Calf Skins, Kid, Morocco, pink and white Linings and Binding Skins, Spanish and Cincinnati Sole Leather, Pegs, Lasts, Boot Trees, Cramping Boards, Shoe Thread, Binding Thread, Linen Boot Web, Galloon, Shoe Ribbon, Laces and Lasting, Knives, Hammers, Pincers, Rasps, Awls, Sparables, Tacks, and every other article used in the manufacture of boots and shoes. We invite the attention of the Trade to our stock, which is all fresh, and has been selected with care, and will be sold, wholesale and retail, low, for Cash.
Special attention will be paid to all orders sent to us, and every article warranted. Jan. 7.

PLUMBE NATIONAL DAGUERREAN GALLERY AND PHOTOGRAPHERS' FURNISHING DEPOTS; awarded the gold and silver medals, four first premiums, and two highest honors, at the National, the Massachusetts, the New York, and Pennsylvania Exhibitions, respectively, for the most splendid colored Daguerreotypes and best apparatus ever exhibited.
Portraits taken in exquisite style, without regard to weather.
Instructions given in the art.
A large assortment of apparatus and stock always on hand, at the lowest cash prices.
New York, 251 Broadway; Philadelphia, 136 Chesnut street; Boston, 75 Court and 58 Hanover streets; Baltimore, 205 Baltimore street; Washington, Pennsylvania avenue; Petersburg, Virginia, Mechanics' Hall; Cincinnati, Fourth and Walnut, and 176 Main street; Saratoga Springs, Broadway; Paris, 127 Vieille Rue du Temple; Liverpool, 32 Church street. Jan. 7.

GREAT *Reduction in the Price of Dentistry.*—Dr. Leach, Surgeon Dentist, South Calvert street, Baltimore, continues to perform all operations pertaining to Surgical or Mechanical Dentistry, in a style that cannot be surpassed for ease of operation, beauty of workmanship, or durability. The best Porcelain Teeth, on Gold, Platinum, Silver, or Pivot, inserted at from $1.50 to $3 each. Whole sets of the best Teeth, with springs and artificial gums, inserted so as to be useful in masticating food, and worn without the least inconvenience. Persons having lost their upper set of teeth may have them supplied by a set on the suction plate or by the atmospheric principle, that will answer all the purposes of natural teeth. Decayed teeth filled with gold, so as to preserve them for life. Persons troubled with artificial teeth, improperly set, may have them remodelled so as to be worn with perfect ease. Dr. L., having his rooms furnished with gas, is enabled to perform any Dental operation in the evening as well as by daylight. Extracting teeth or broken fangs without injuring the jaw or much pain, 25 cents. Call and see before engaging elsewhere. April 29.—tf

TO PERSONS OUT OF WORK.—A rare chance for turning not only pennies, but dollars, is offered in the retail of the *National Era.* Apply at No. 10 North street, Baltimore. April 29.